

MARVEL
25TH
ANNIVERSARY

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X-FACTOR™

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12
JAN

BOOM-BOOM'S BACK..
AND THE **BEAST** AND **ICEMAN**
ARE IN FOR TROUBLE NOW!



STAN LEE PRESENTS:

BOOM BOOM BOOM!

ST. VINCENT'S
HOSPITAL. DAWN.



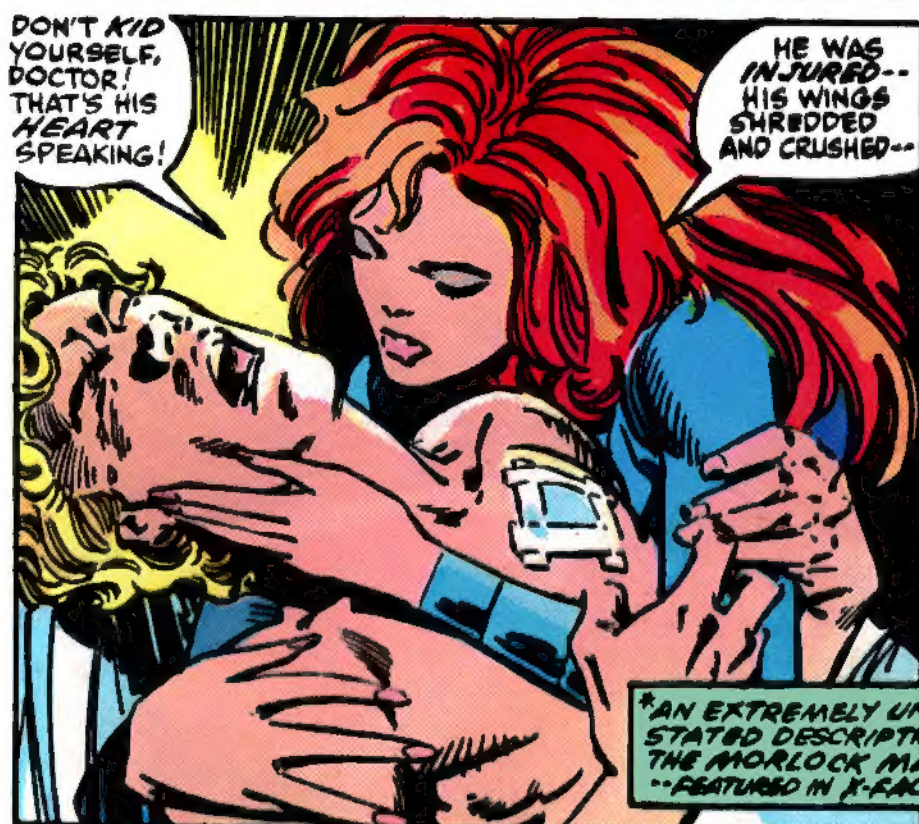
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YOU CAN'T!
I WON'T LET
YOU! I'LL--

IT'S THE
DRUGS-- THE
PAIN KILLERS--
TALKING, MAKING
HIM ACT LIKE
THAT! HE'S NOT
HIMSELF!



DON'T KID
YOURSELF,
DOCTOR!
THAT'S HIS
HEART
SPEAKING!

HE WAS
INJURED--
HIS WINGS
SHREDDED
AND CRUSHED--

*AN EXTREMELY UNDER-
STATED DESCRIPTION OF
THE MORLOCK MASSACRE
--FEATURED IN X-FACTOR #10, BOB.



--WHILE SAVING A
BUNCH OF PEOPLE
WHO WOULD OTHER-
WISE HAVE DIED!*

WITH HIS
POWER, HE
MAKES A
DIFFERENCE--
AND YOU WANT
TO TAKE THAT
AWAY FROM HIM!

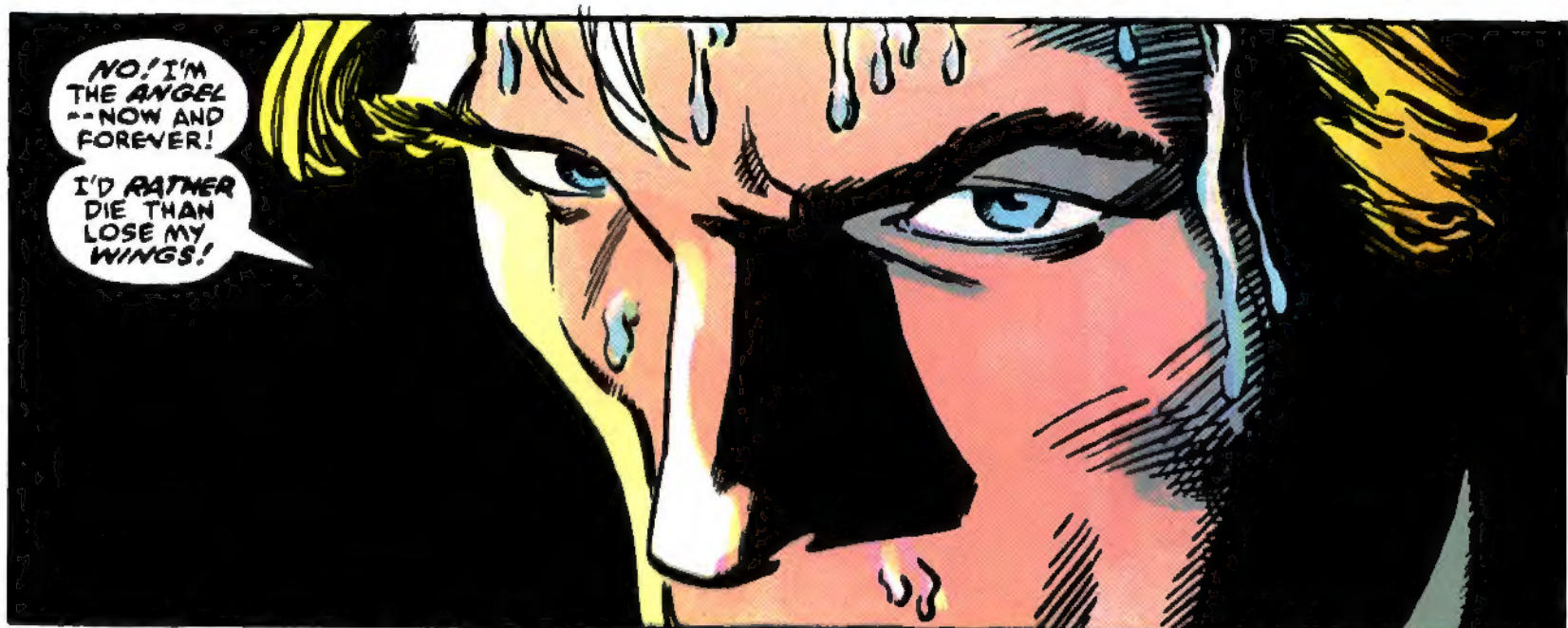
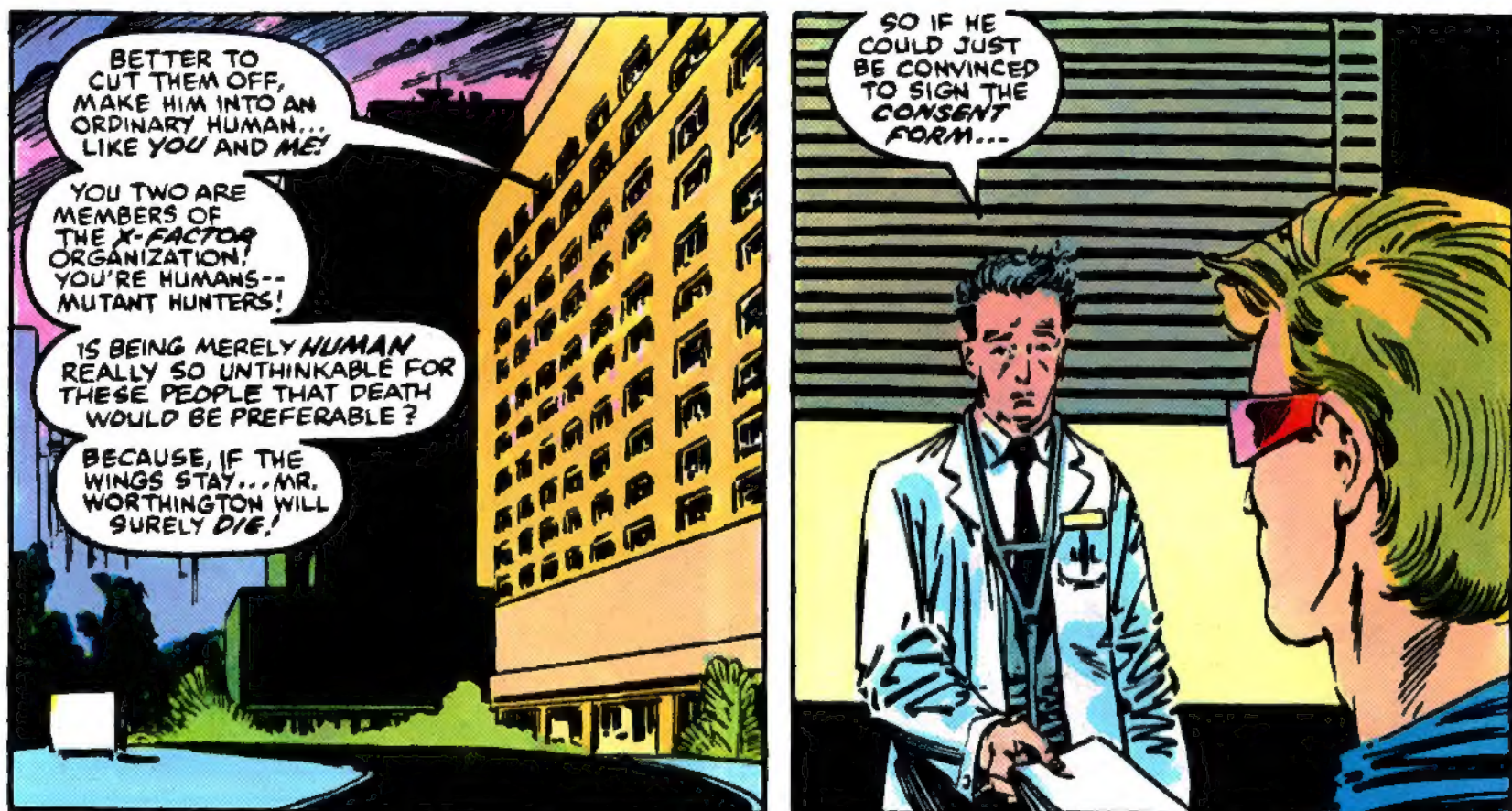
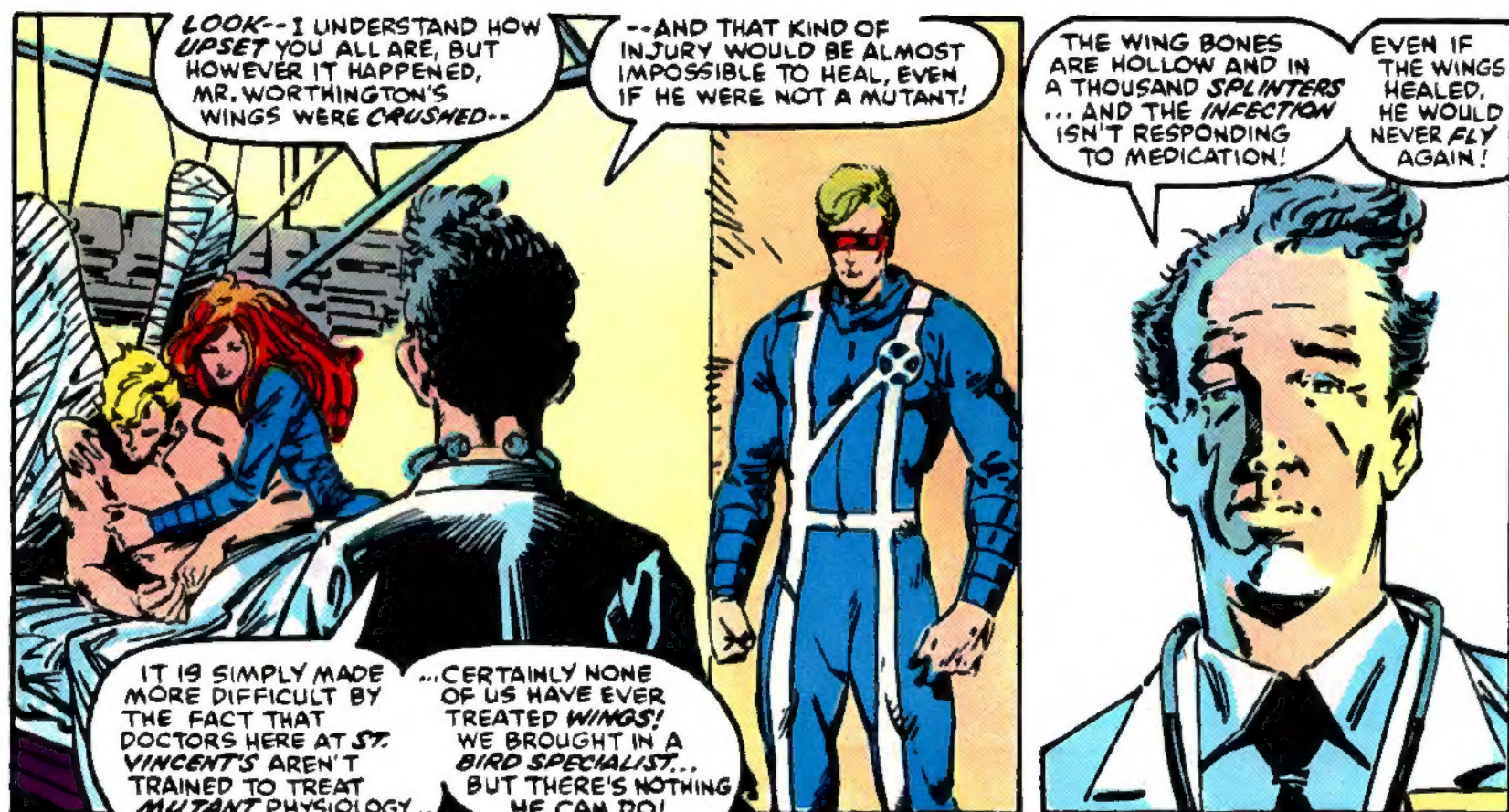


YOU WANT
TO CUT OFF
HIS WINGS!

DAILY BUGLE
HIGH FLYING ANGEL FALLS!
X-FACTOR BACKER MILLIONAIRE
MUTANT NORTHINGTON INJURED!



HOW DO YOU
EXPECT HIM TO
REACT?



MEANWHILE, ON THE HUDSON RIVER IN LOWER MANHATTAN, THE INHABITANTS OF THE X-FACTOR COMPLEX ARE JUST BEGINNING TO PREPARE BREAKFAST IN THEIR OWN INIMITABLE FASHION...



TEN FLAPJACKS DOWN! TWENTY MORE, COMING UP!

HEY, ERG, HOW'S THE TOAST COMIN'?



BE CRISPED IN A SECOND, SKIDS!

LISTEN, BEAST, I DON'T WANT YOU TO TAKE THIS QUESTION WRONG...

*IN X-FACTOR #10! BOB.

AFTER ALL, X-FACTOR RESCUED US-- SAVED US-- FROM CERTAIN DEATH AT THE HANDS OF THE MARAUDERS* AND WE'RE GRATEFUL...

...BUT WHY DO YOU AND ICEMAN AND THE OTHERS PUBLICLY PRETEND TO BE MUTANT-HUNTING HUMANS...?

IT WAS ANGEL'S IDEA, REALLY!



HE THOUGHT IT WOULD ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO REPORT ANY MUTANT WHO WAS HAVING TROUBLE COPING WITH HIS POWERS...

...THEN X-FACTOR COULD STEP IN AND RESCUE AND TRAIN HIM SO HE WOULDN'T MENACE PEOPLE ANY MORE!

YEAH, ICEMAN, LIKE YOU GUYS SAVED AND TRAINED ME! I...I ACCIDENTALLY BURNED A WOMAN BACK BEFORE I COULD CONTROL MY POWER!



BUT NOW I'M LEARNING TO USE IT SAFELY...AND ONLY WHEN I MEAN TO...

I COULD USE KNOWING THAT!

THIS DARN FORCE FIELD! IT'S STUCK ON...



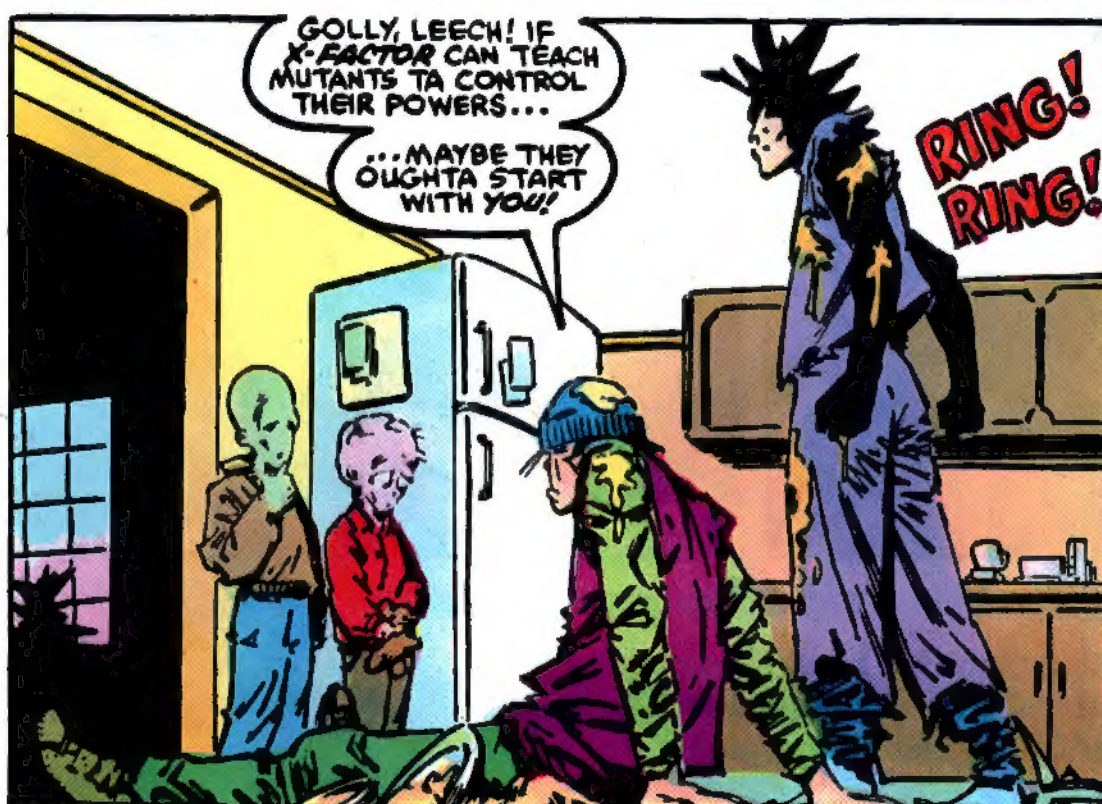
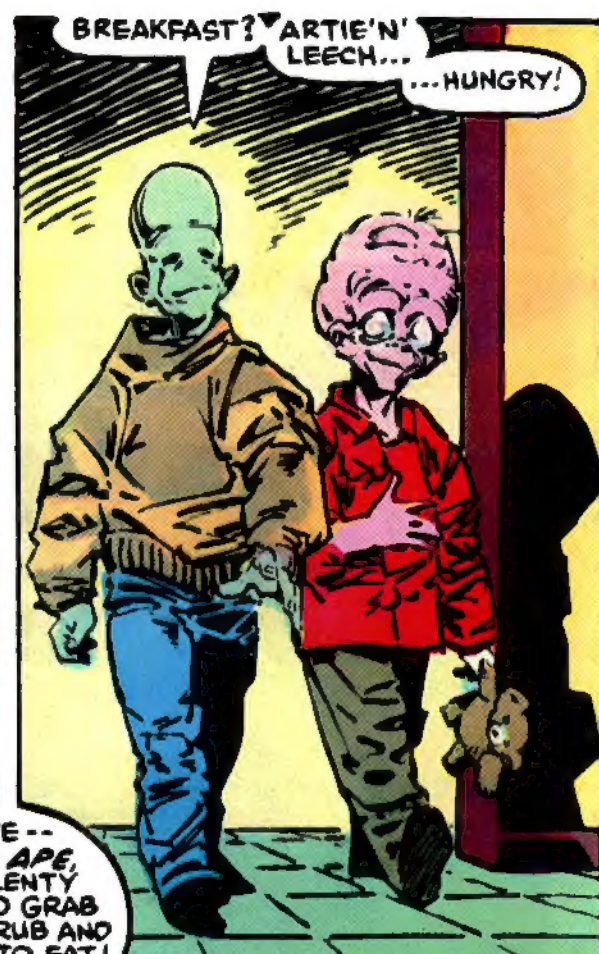
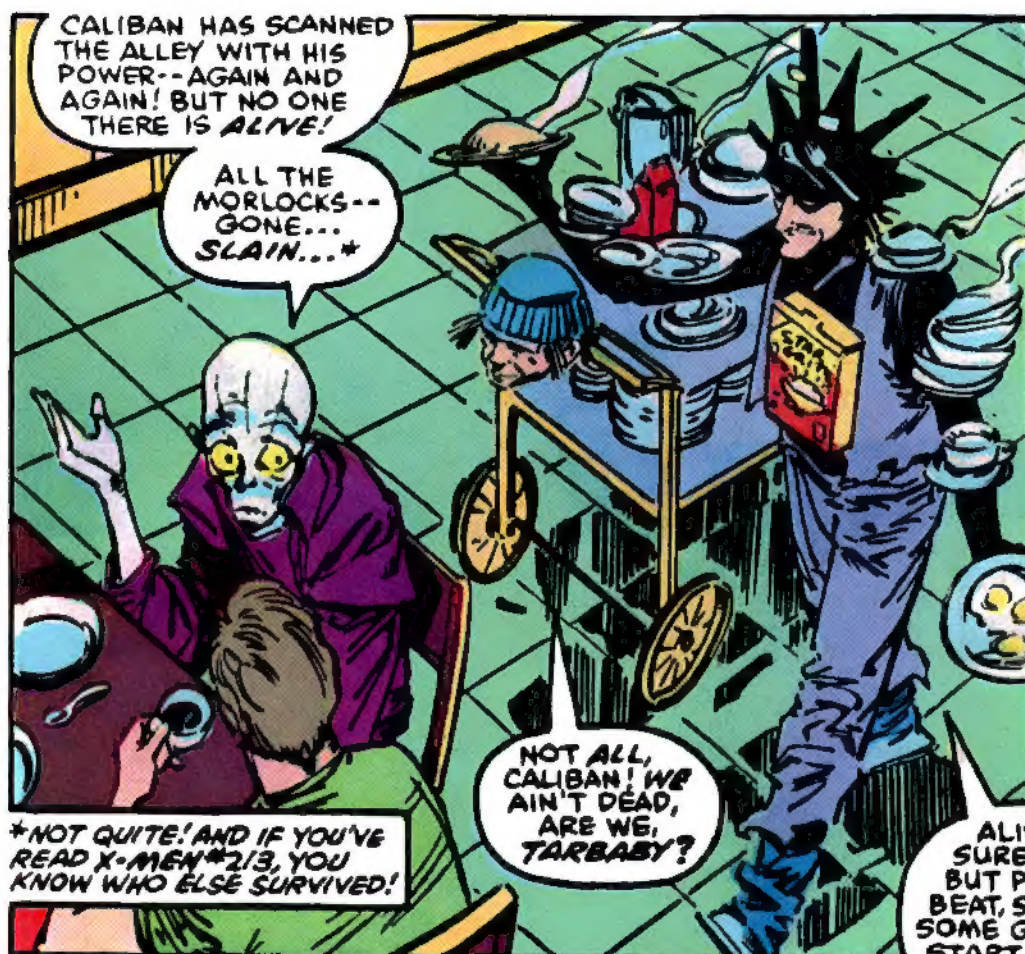
BAD THINGS SKID OFF ME...

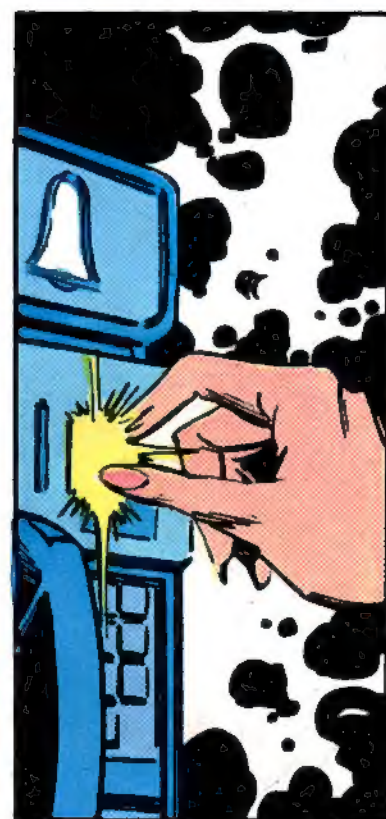
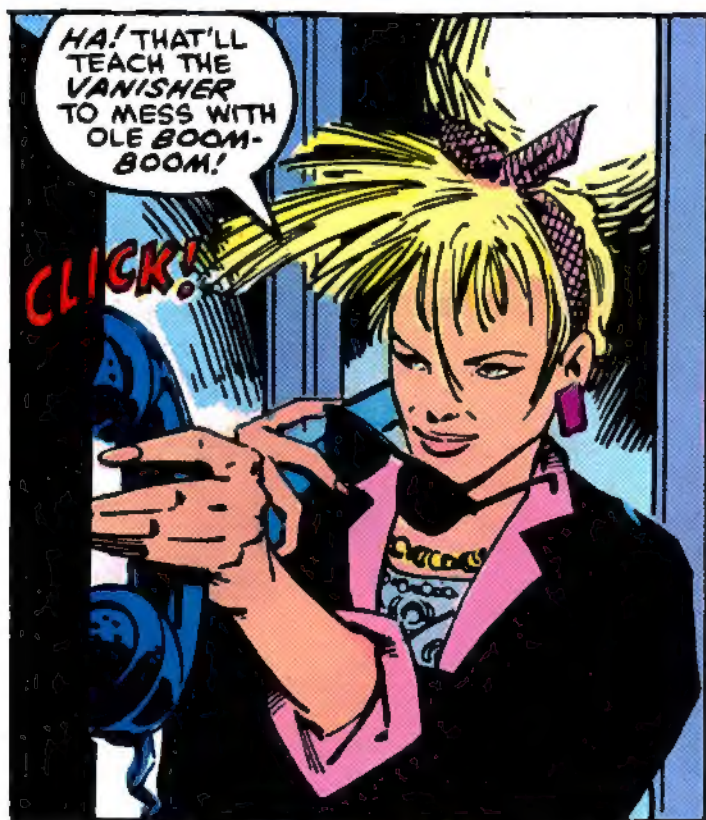
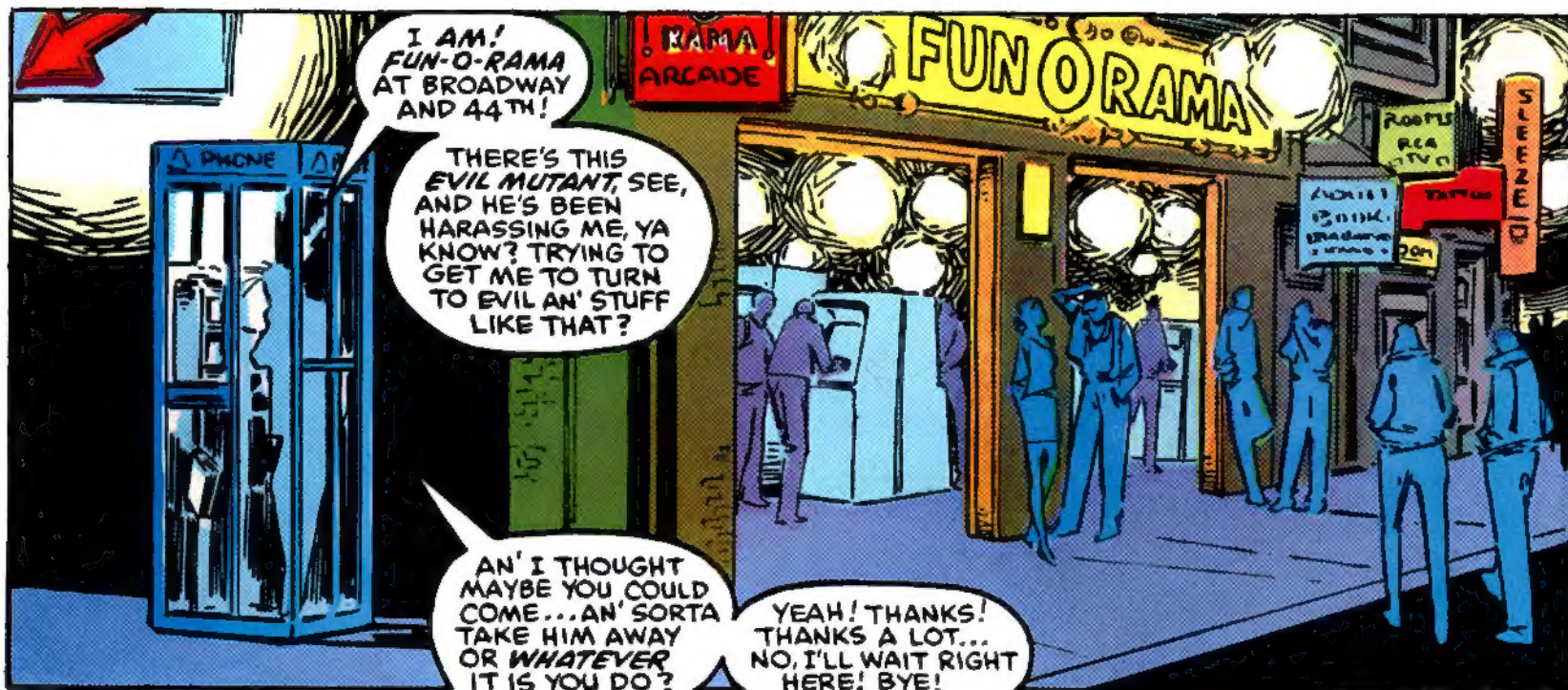
...BUT GOOD THINGS DO, TOO!



HA! GOTCHA!







WHILE BACK AT THE X-FACTOR COMPLEX...

YA KNOW, HANK, MAYBE WE OUGHTA FORGET IT! IT SOUNDS LIKE A CRANK CALL TO ME...

...AND THE LAST THING WE NEED RIGHT NOW IS TO LOCATE ANOTHER MUTANT!

WHERE WOULD WE PUT HIM? IT'S GETTING KINDA CROWDED IN HERE, YA KNOW?



SPARE ME, BOBBY! IT'S OUR JOB! AND IT'S NOT AS IF WE HAVE TO GO TO CALIFORNIA TO CHECK IT OUT!

DON'T WORRY ABOUT US, BOBBY! WE'LL BE OKAY!

WE'LL MAKE OURSELVES AT HOME!

THANKS FOR THE NEW CLOTHES, HANK!

NEW CLOTHES?

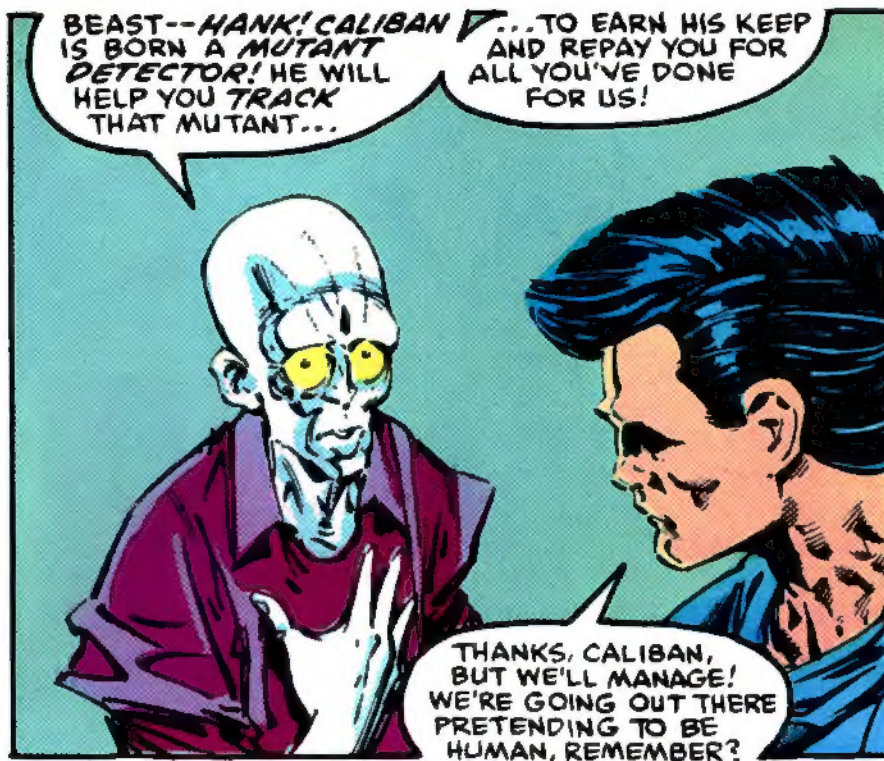
REMEMBER THAT PUNKED-OUT SUIT VERA CONNED ME INTO BUYING...?



BEAST--HANK! CALIBAN IS BORN A MUTANT DETECTOR! HE WILL HELP YOU TRACK THAT MUTANT...

...TO EARN HIS KEEP AND REPAY YOU FOR ALL YOU'VE DONE FOR US!

THANKS, CALIBAN, BUT WE'LL MANAGE! WE'RE GOING OUT THERE PRETENDING TO BE HUMAN, REMEMBER?



I CAN PASS, BARELY, BUT YOU'D GIVE THE GAME AWAY! BESIDES, YOU'VE BEEN HURT! YOU OUGHTA REST!

CALIBAN CAN NEVER REST AS LONG AS THE MARAUDERS WHO KILLED HIS PEOPLE RUN FREE!



WHILE BACK AT THE HOSPITAL...

...THE PLAYBOY MUTANT, WARREN WORTHINGTON III, HURT IN A MYSTERIOUS ACCIDENT, ONLY HOURS AFTER HIS WELL-HIDDEN CONNECTION TO X-FACTOR WAS REVEALED, REMAINS IN CRITICAL CONDITION AT ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL.

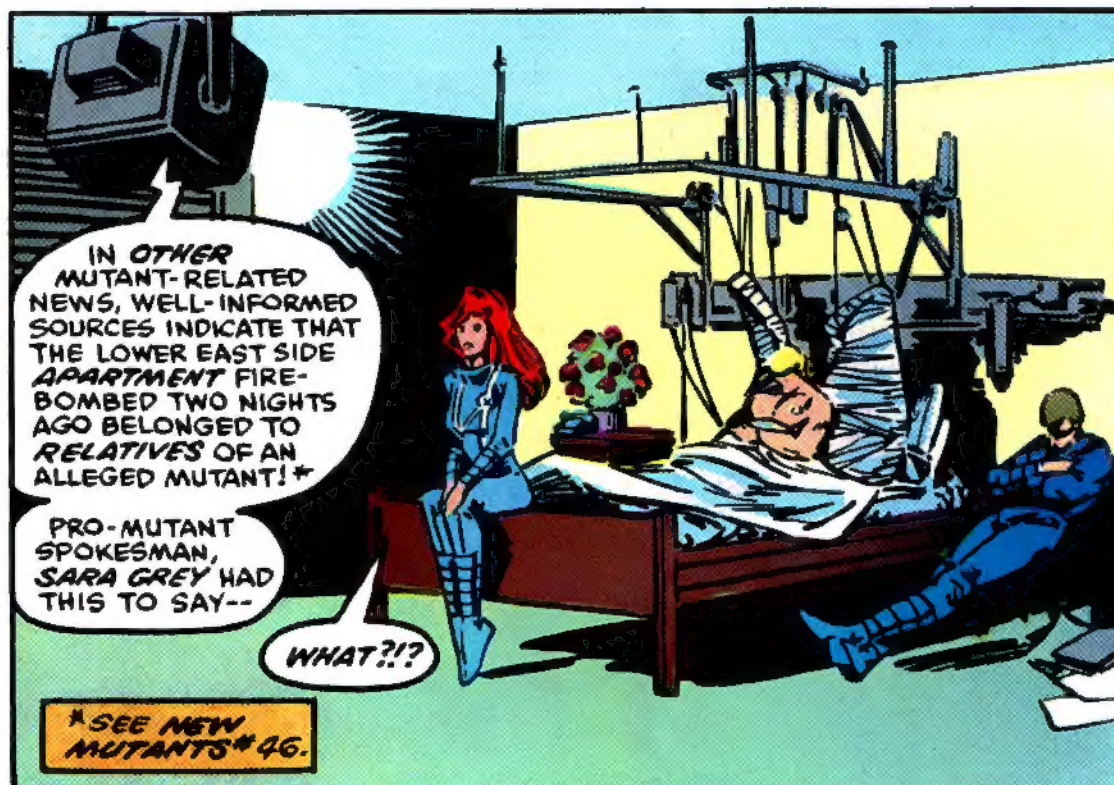
VINCENT'S HOSPITAL

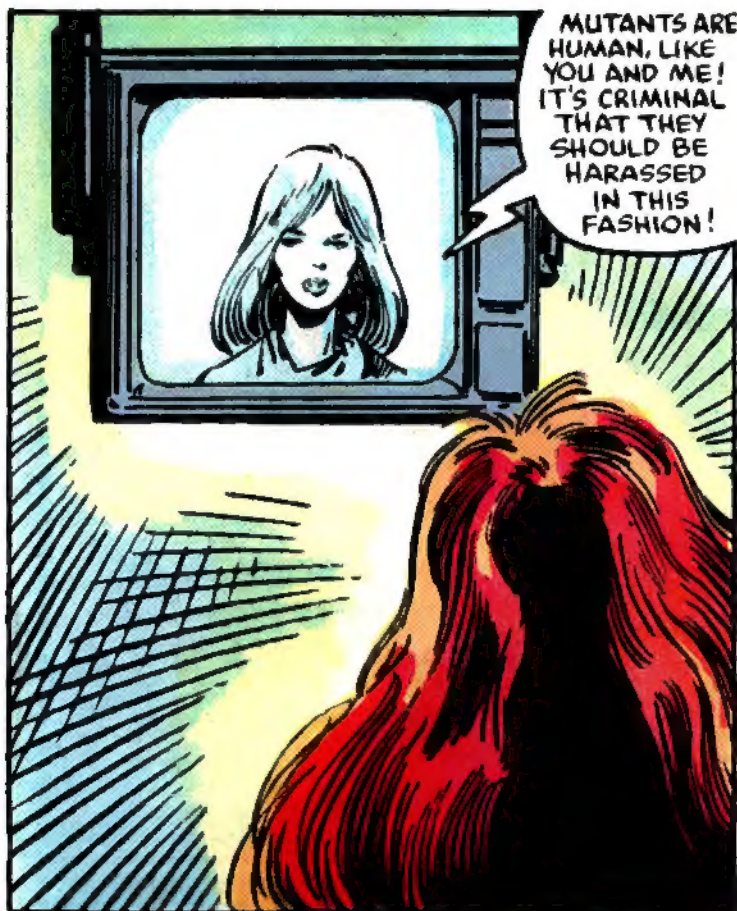
IN OTHER MUTANT-RELATED NEWS, WELL-INFORMED SOURCES INDICATE THAT THE LOWER EAST SIDE APARTMENT FIRE-BOMBED TWO NIGHTS AGO BELONGED TO RELATIVES OF AN ALLEGED MUTANT! *

PRO-MUTANT SPOKESMAN, SARA GREY HAD THIS TO SAY--

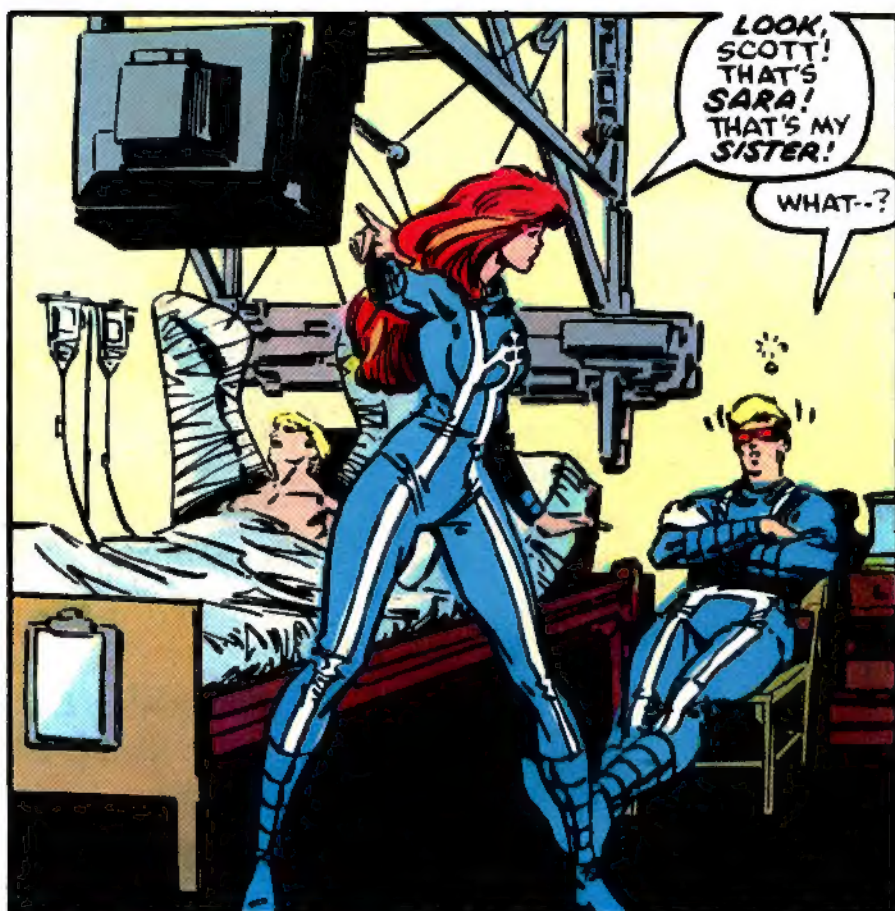
WHAT?!?

*SEE NEW MUTANTS #46.





MUTANTS ARE HUMAN, LIKE YOU AND ME! IT'S CRIMINAL THAT THEY SHOULD BE HARASSED IN THIS FASHION!



LOOK, SCOTT! THAT'S SARA! THAT'S MY SISTER!

WHAT--?



SHE THOUGHT THAT I BECAME THE TERRIBLE DARK PHOENIX...*

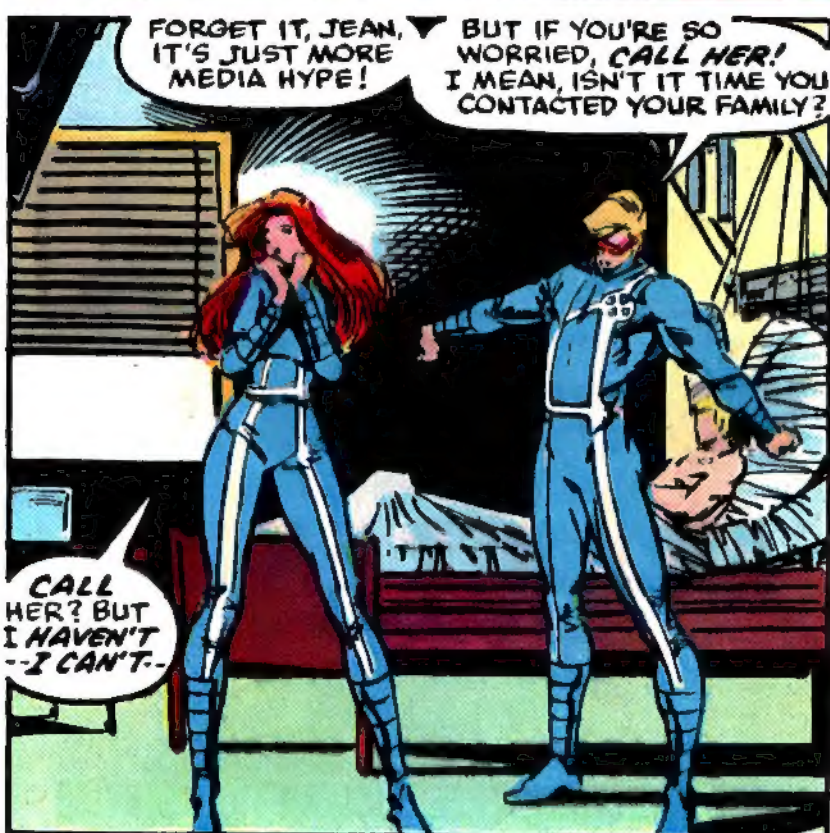
... BUT SHE STILL STANDS UP FOR ME, FOR ALL OF US! JUST LIKE SHE DID WHEN I WAS A KID!

OH, NO!

SOMEBODY'S BOMBING PEOPLE, JUST BECAUSE THEY THINK THEY'RE RELATED TO MUTANTS...

... AND THERE SHE IS ON TV, MAKING A PUBLIC TARGET OF HERSELF!

*SEE X-MEN #95-#137 FOR THE DARK PHOENIX SAGA OR X-MEN CLASSICS, ON SALE NOW!



FORGET IT, JEAN. IT'S JUST MORE MEDIA HYPE!

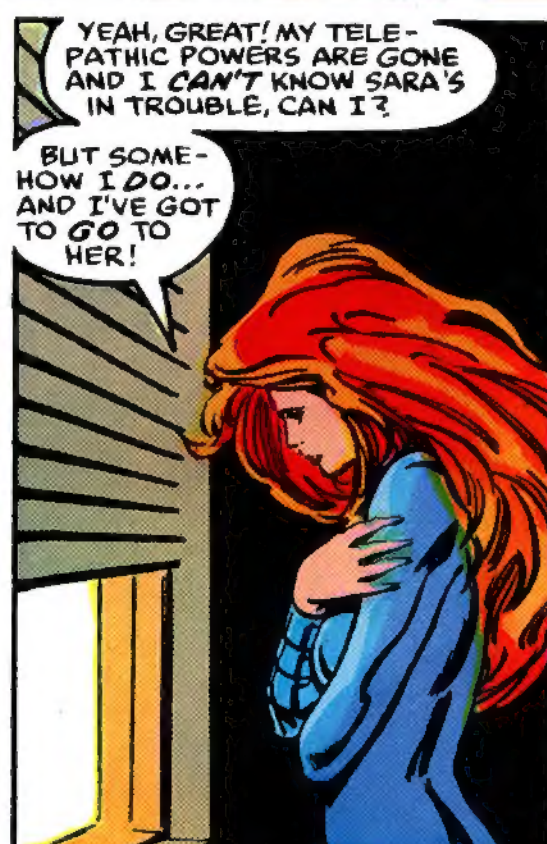
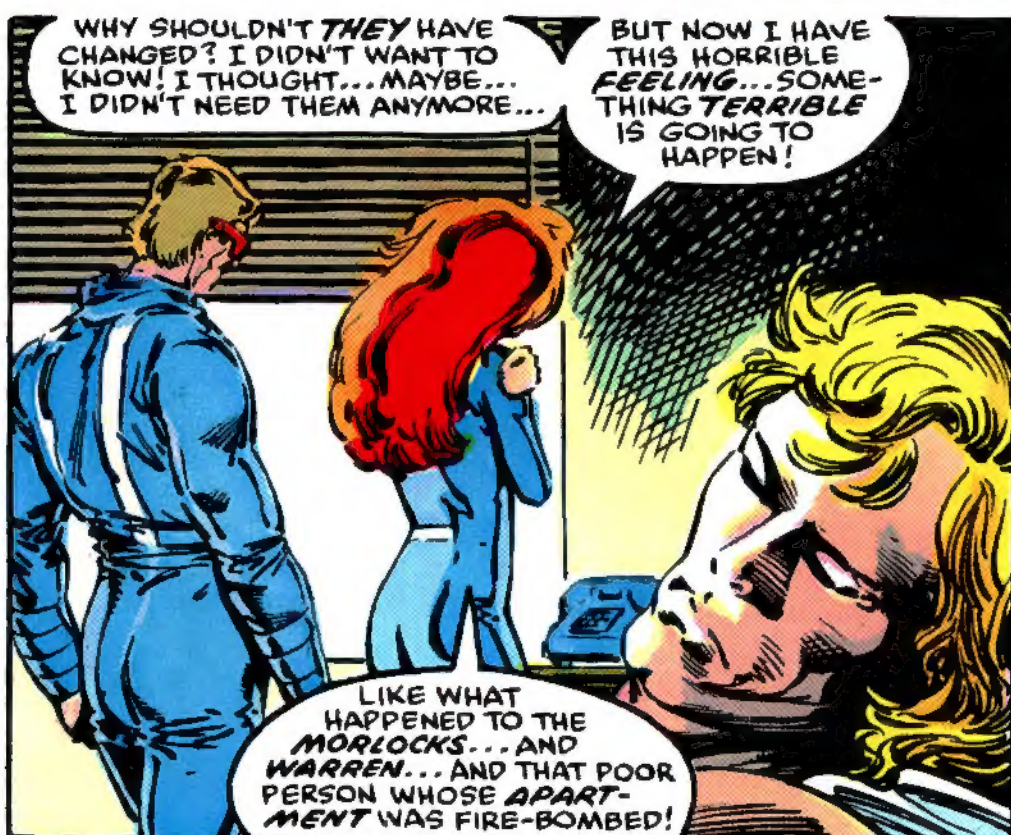
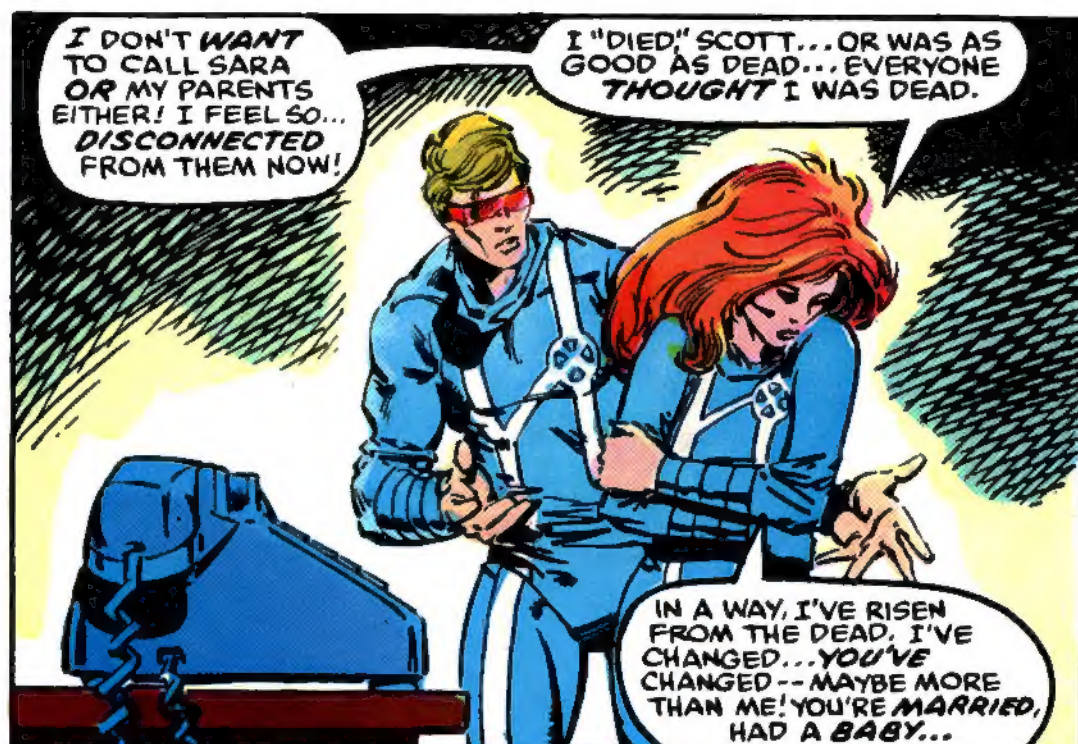
BUT IF YOU'RE SO WORRIED, CALL HER! I MEAN, ISN'T IT TIME YOU CONTACTED YOUR FAMILY?

CALL HER? BUT I HAVEN'T -- I CAN'T --



YOU'RE A FINE ONE TO TALK! YOU HAVEN'T SPOKEN TO YOUR OWN WIFE IN --

I TRIED, JEAN -- DOZENS OF TIMES. THERE'S NO ANSWER, NO FORWARDING ADDRESS, NOTHING!



WHILE IN MID-TOWN
MANHATTAN...

SO YOU LET ME
LIVE IN YOUR APART-
MENT--ALONG WITH
THREE OTHER GIRLS--
BIG DEAL!

YOU CHARGE
ME OVER NINETY-
FIVE PERCENT OF
WHAT I STEAL!

AH, BUT
FAIR IS FAIR,
BOOM-BOOM!
WHO TAUGHT
YOU TO STEAL?

SO GIVE
THE CROOK
A LOLLY-
POP!

LOOK, CAN'T
YOU GET IT THROUGH
YOUR HEAD? I DON'T
WANT TO TEAM UP
WITH YOU AND YOUR
ALL GIRL GANG
ANYMORE!

I DON'T NEED
YOU! I DON'T NEED
ANYBODY! FOR ONCE,
I'M WALKING OUT ON
SOMEBODY BEFORE
THEY WALK OUT
ON ME!

BOOM BOOM!
HOW COULD YOU
THINK THAT OF
ME! I'D NEVER
WALK OUT ON
YOU!

ZAP!
ZAP!

YEAH,
SURE...

HOW COULD I?
YOU HAVE SUCH
A WONDERFUL
POWER...AND
YOU'RE SO MUCH
CLEVERER THAN
THE OTHER GIRLS!

BLOOP!
BLIP!
BLOOP!
FAZZ!
FAZZ!
BLOOP!
FAZZ!
BAZZOW!
BLIP!

YOU KNOW I WAS ONLY
KIDDING, DON'T YOU...
ABOUT THE QUARTERS?

WELL...

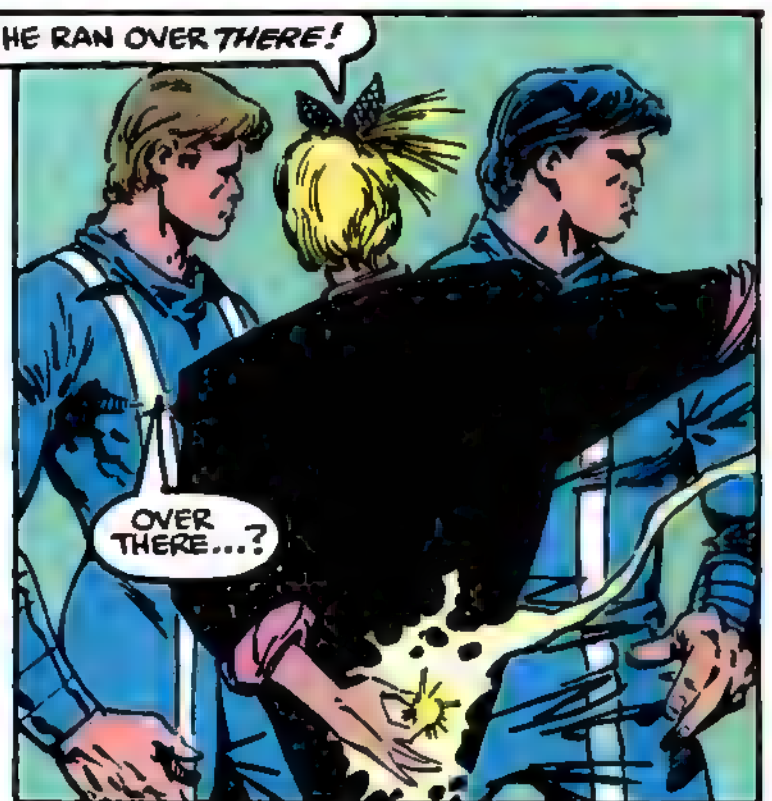
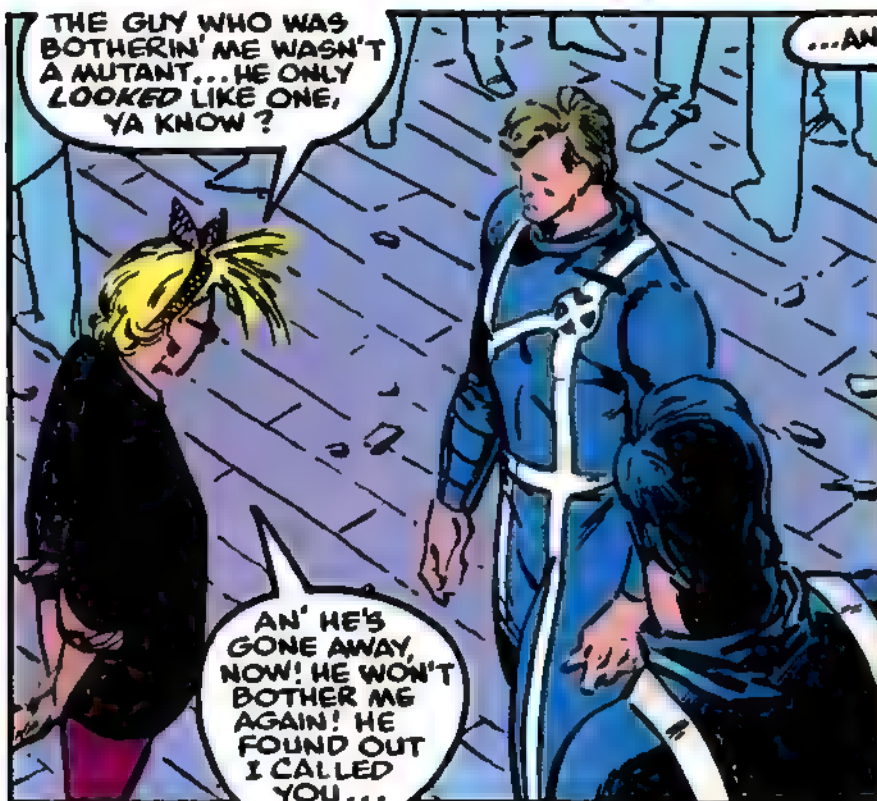
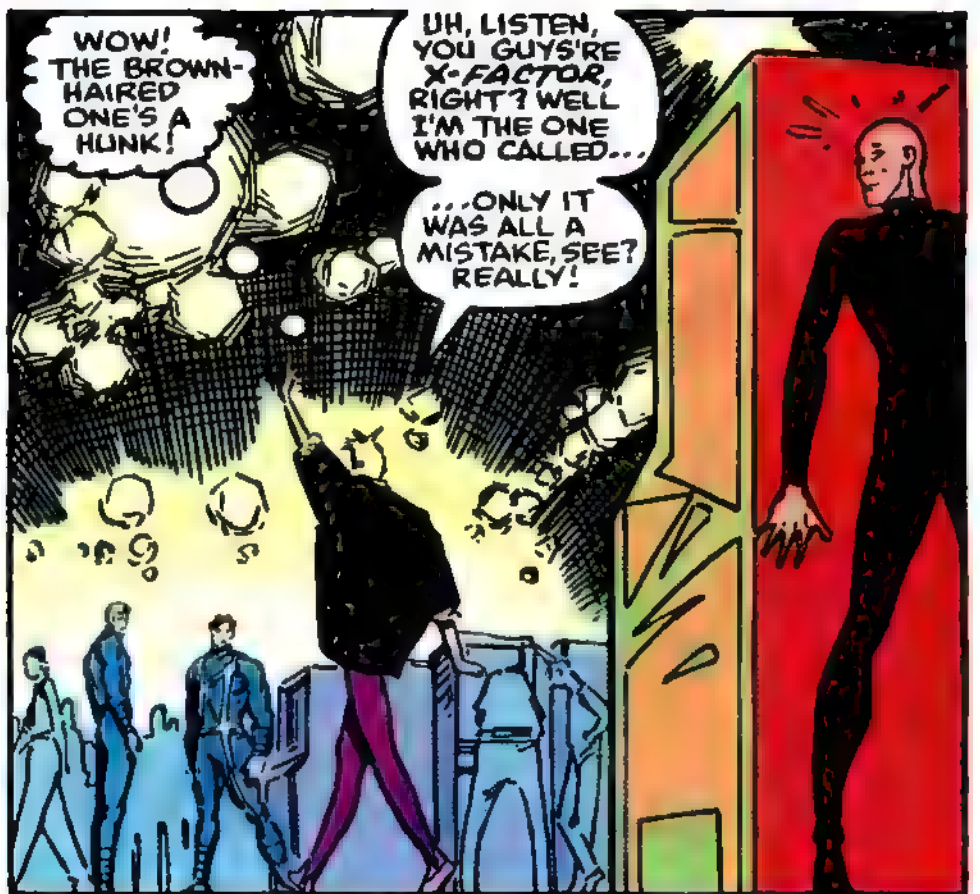
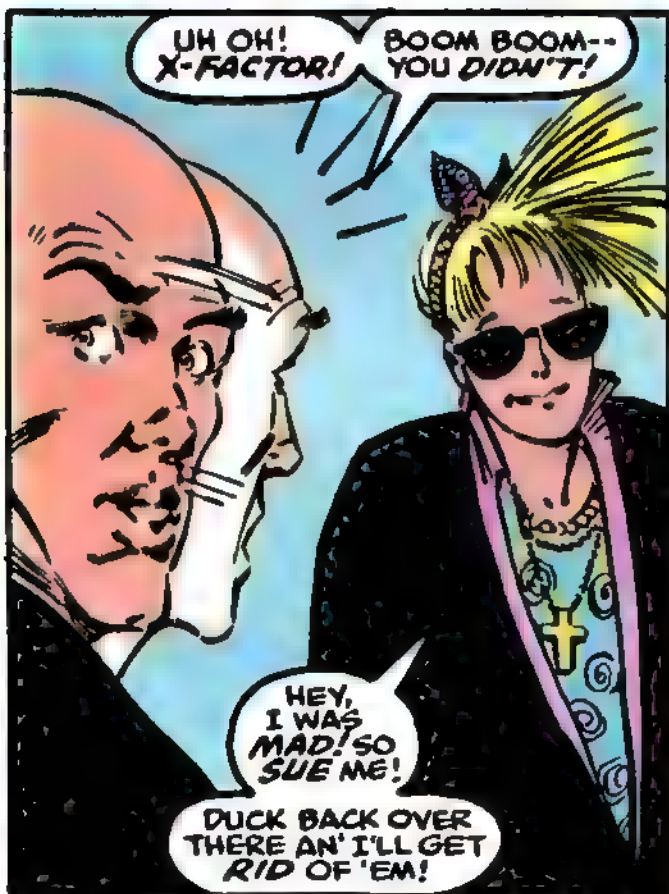
NO! REALLY! KEEP THEM...
KEEP THEM ALL! PLAY ALL
THE VIDEO GAMES YOU
LIKE! A FABULOUS KID
LIKE YOU...

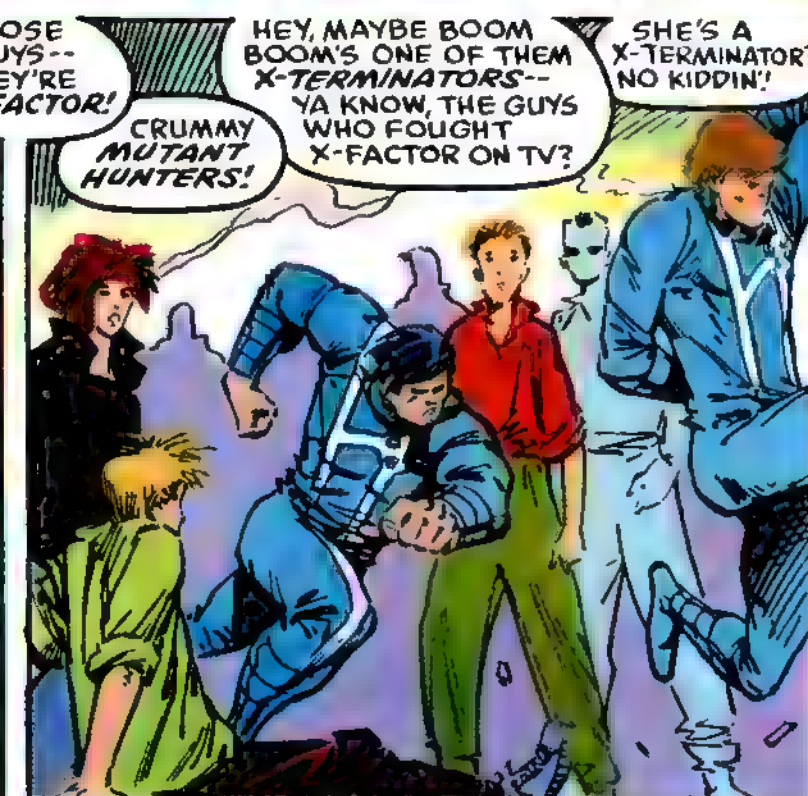
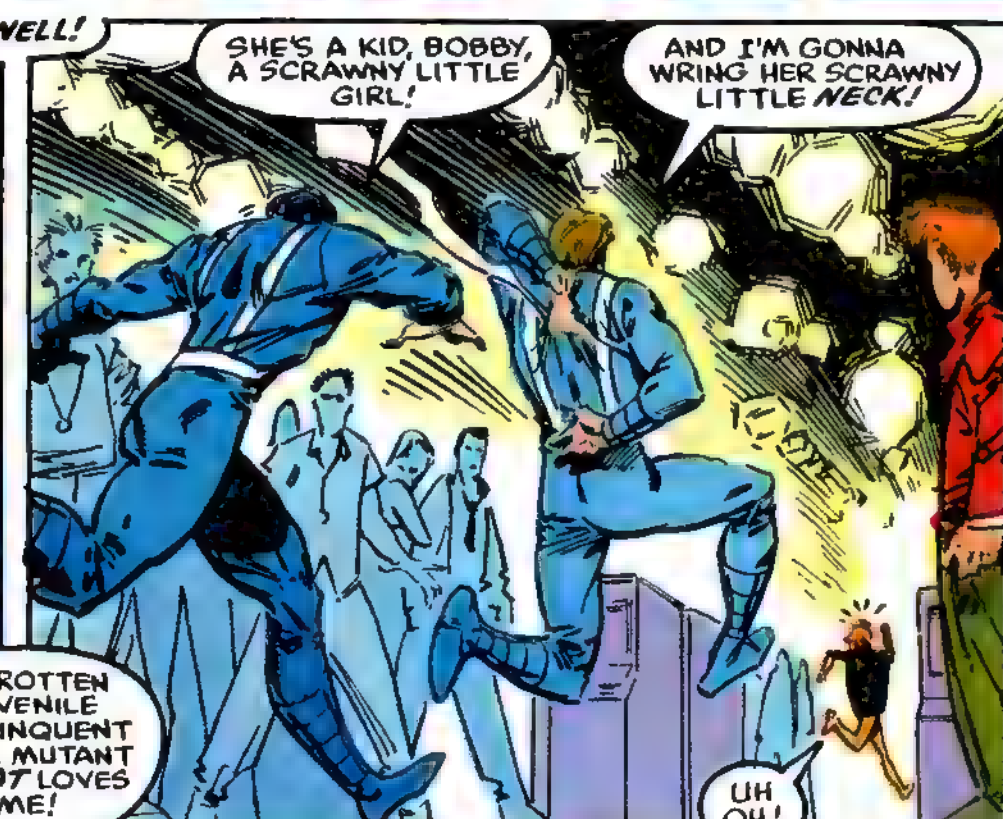
ONLY...THEY'RE **MUTANT
HUNTERS**...WHO KNOWS
WHAT THEY'LL DO TO HIM!

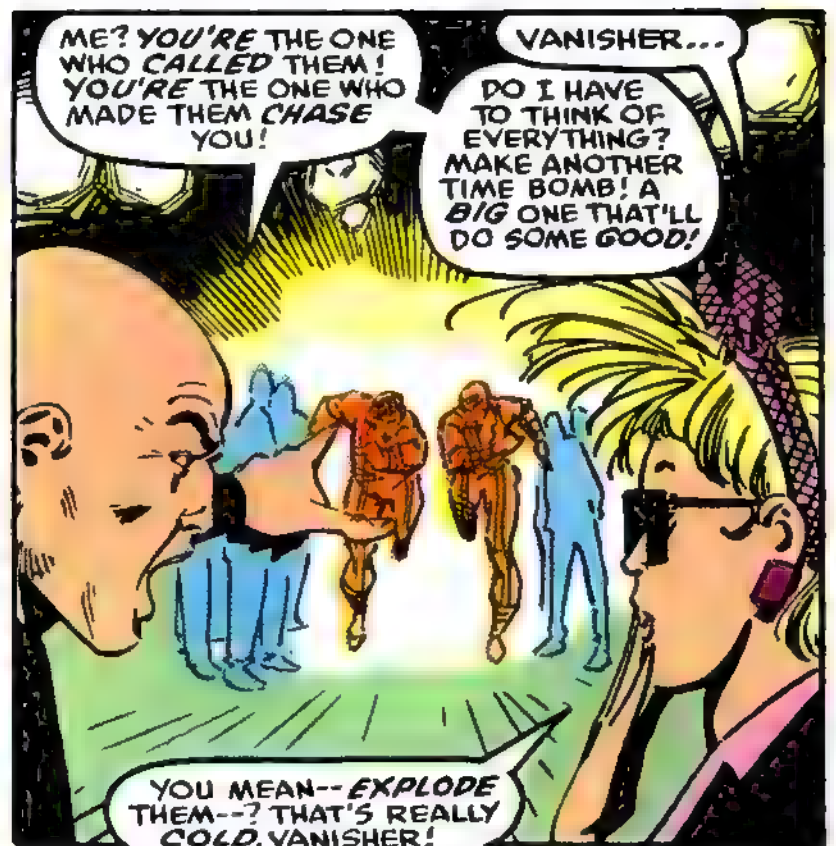
AND HE'S NOT SUCH
A BAD SORT, REALLY
...IF ONLY HE'D--

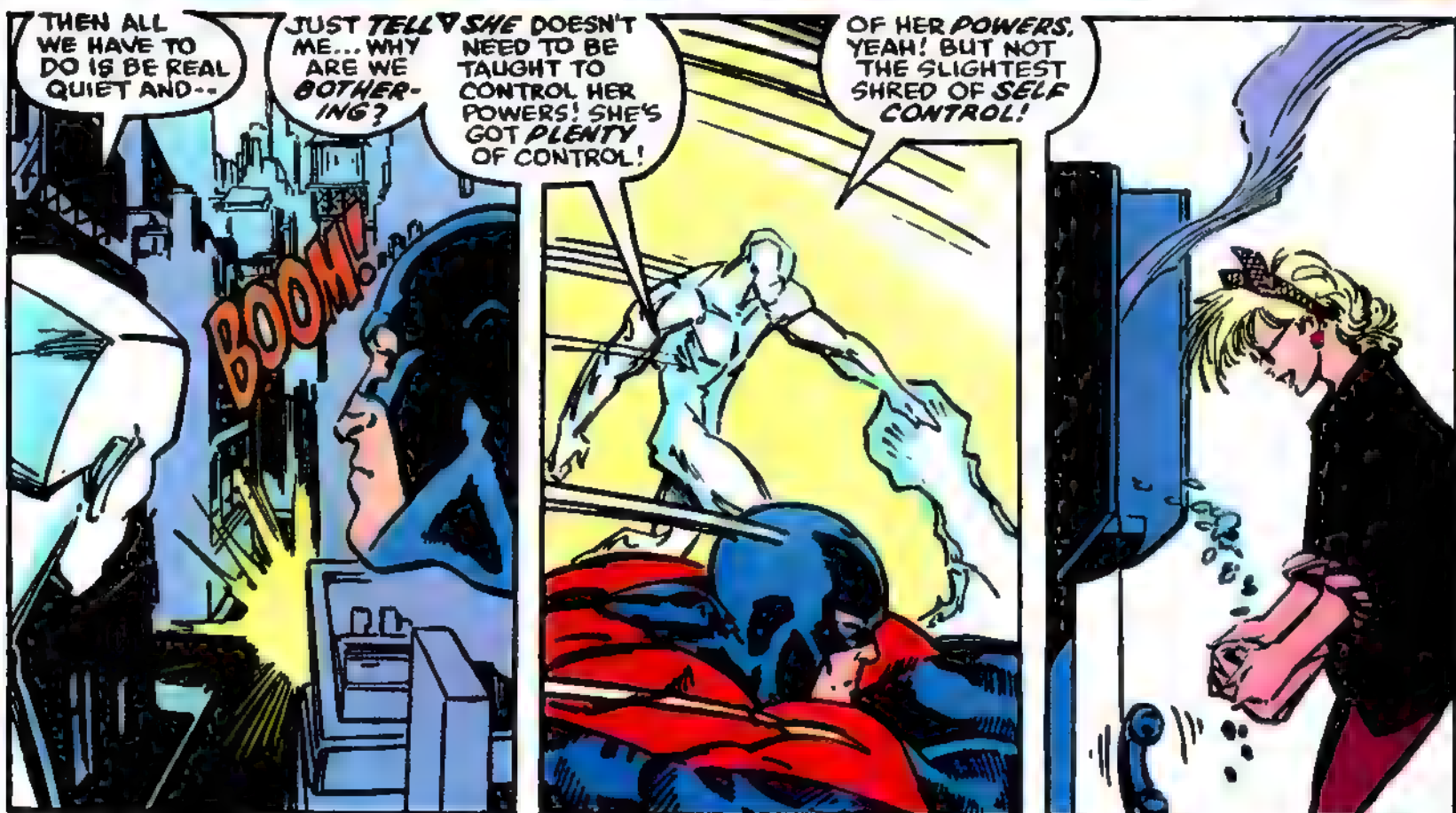
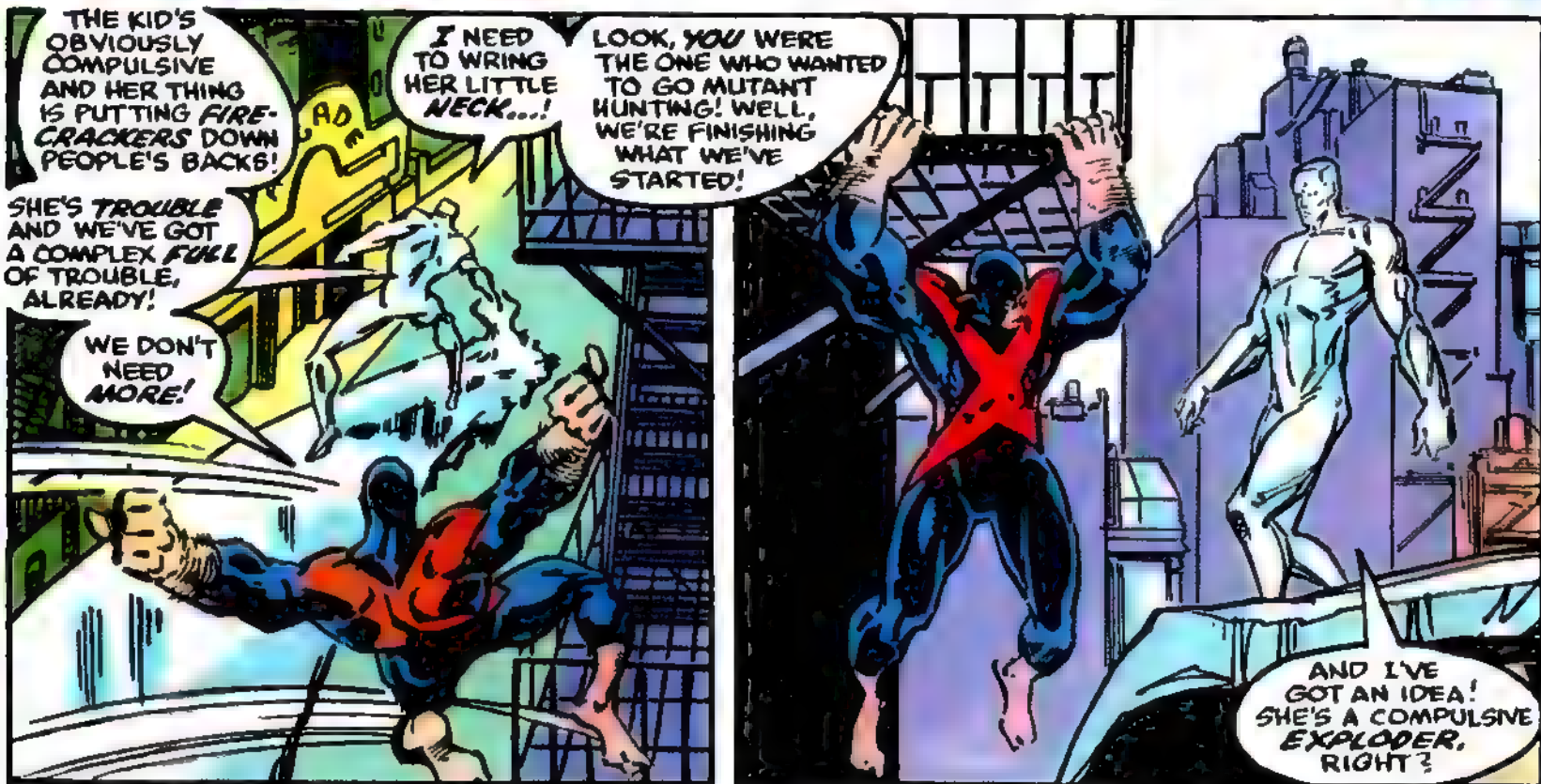
UH...
VANISHER...?
GUESS
WHAT...?

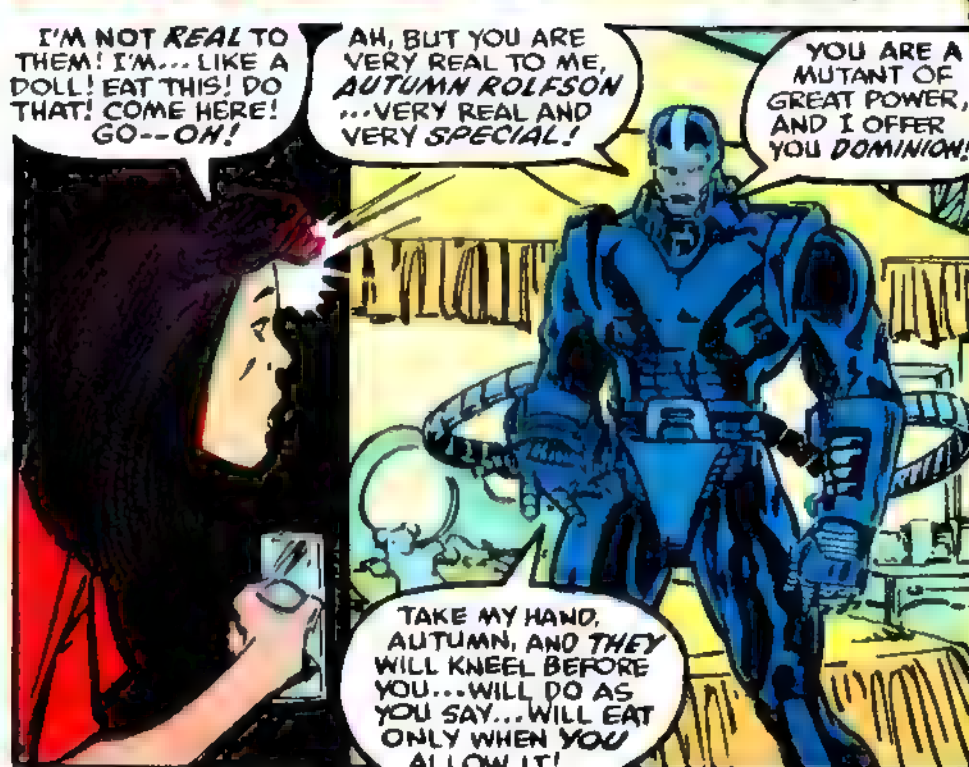
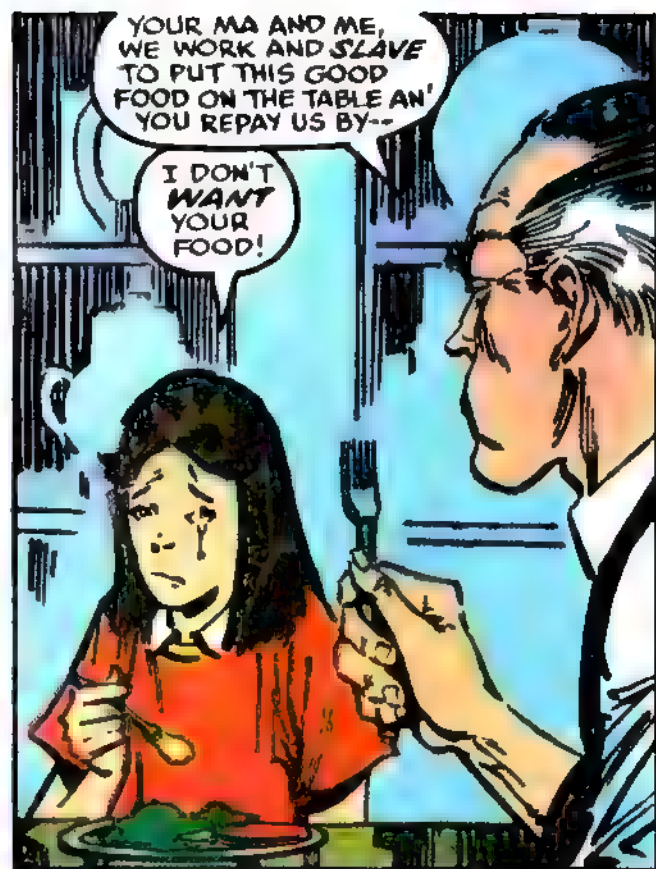
THERE
THEY ARE--
X-FACTOR! THIS
WAS EASIER THAN
I THOUGHT!

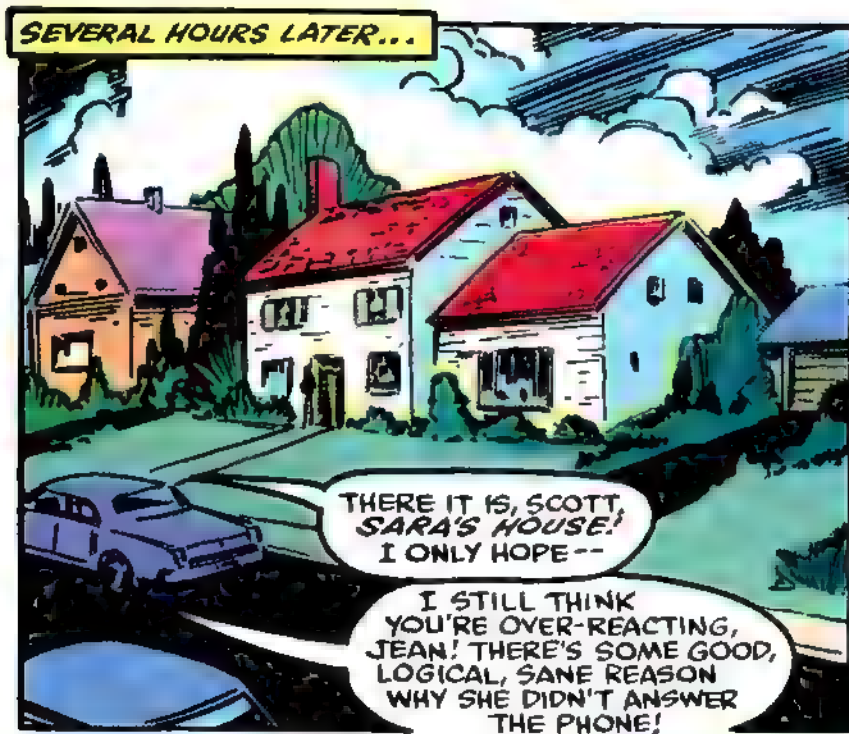






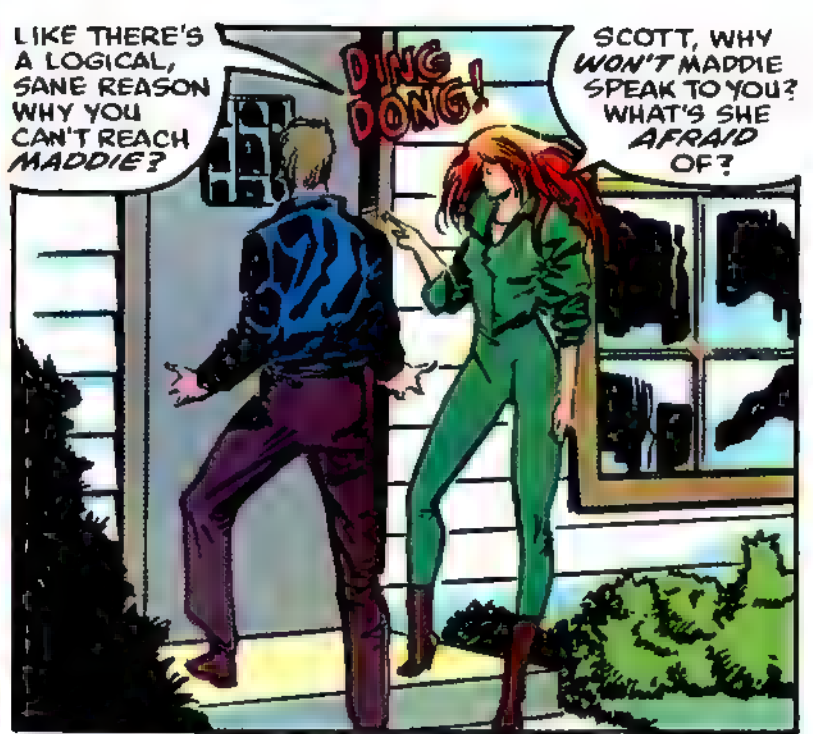






THERE IT IS, SCOTT,
SARA'S HOUSE!
I ONLY HOPE--

I STILL THINK
YOU'RE OVER-REACTING,
JEAN! THERE'S SOME GOOD,
LOGICAL, SANE REASON
WHY SHE DIDN'T ANSWER
THE PHONE!



LIKE THERE'S
A LOGICAL,
SANE REASON
WHY YOU
CAN'T REACH
MADDIE?

SCOTT, WHY
WOULDN'T MADDIE
SPEAK TO YOU?
WHAT'S SHE
AFRAID
OF?



SHE LOOKS SO MUCH
LIKE ME! DOES SHE REALLY
THINK YOU MARRIED HER,
HOPING SOMEHOW I'D
COME BACK FROM THE DEAD...?

WELL, I HAVE!
AND THERE'S
NOTHING ANY OF
US CAN DO
ABOUT IT!

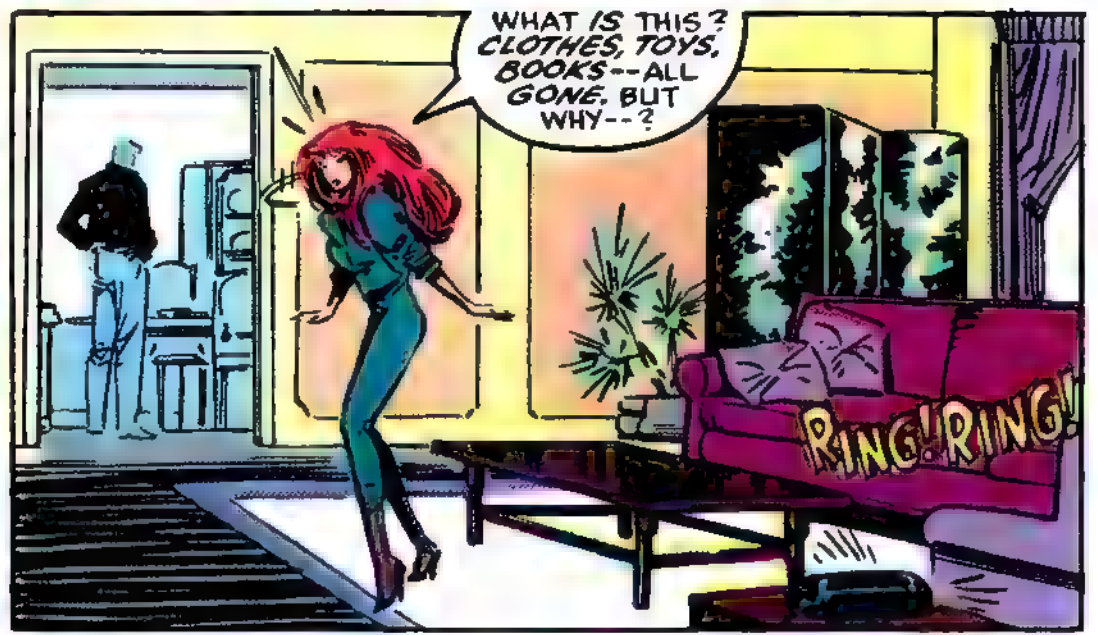
JEAN...LOOK,
I'M SORRY...



NOBODY'S HOME!
THE PLACE IS
LOCKED UP...

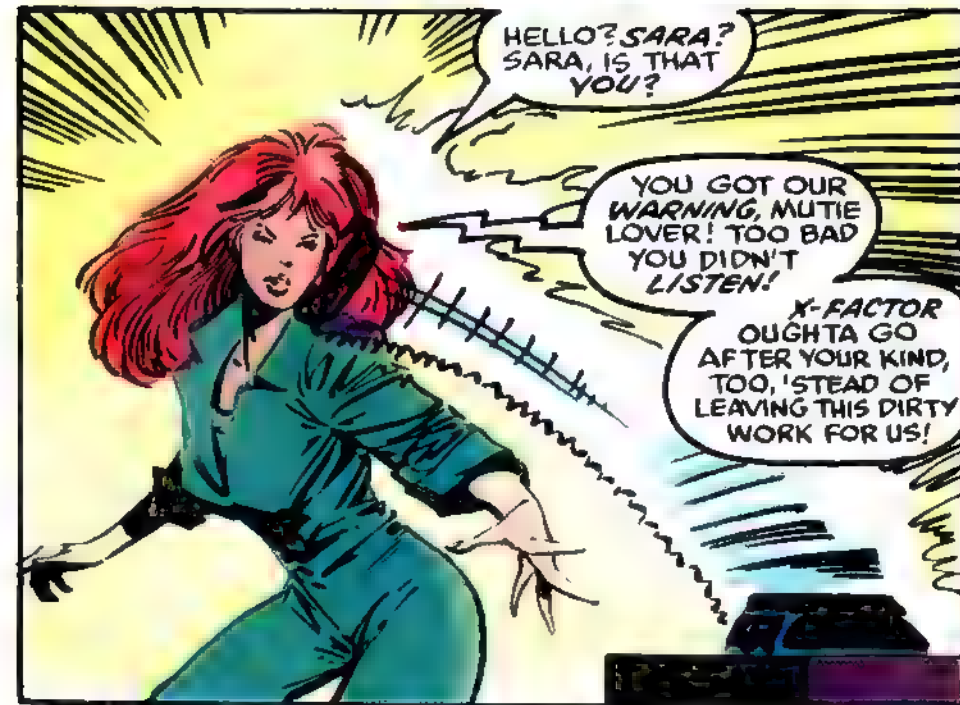
CLICK!

LOCKS
DON'T STOP
TELEKINETICS,
SCOTT!



WHAT IS THIS?
CLOTHES, TOYS,
BOOKS--ALL
GONE, BUT
WHY--?

RING! RING!



HELLO? SARA?
SARA, IS THAT
YOU?

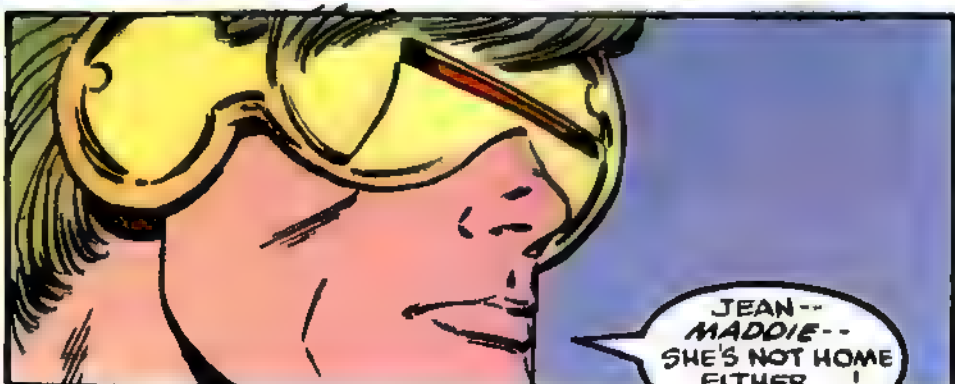
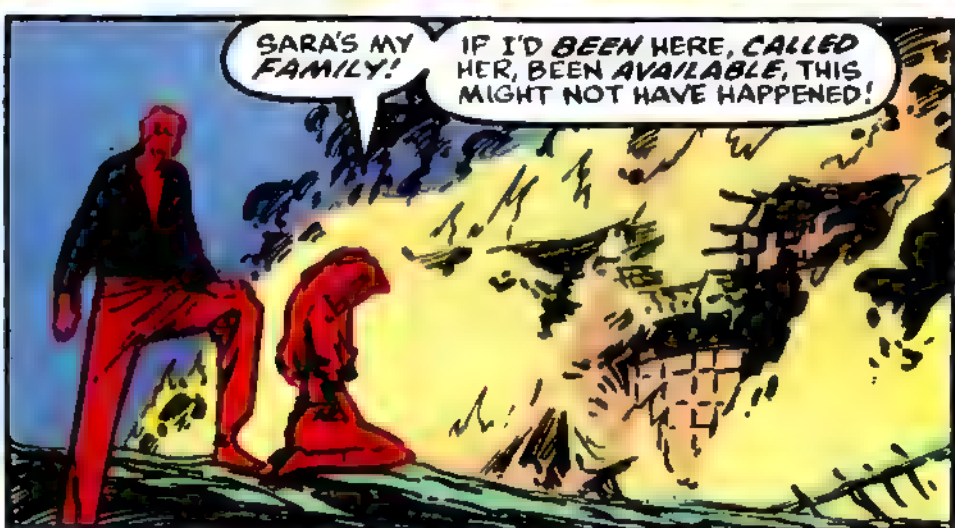
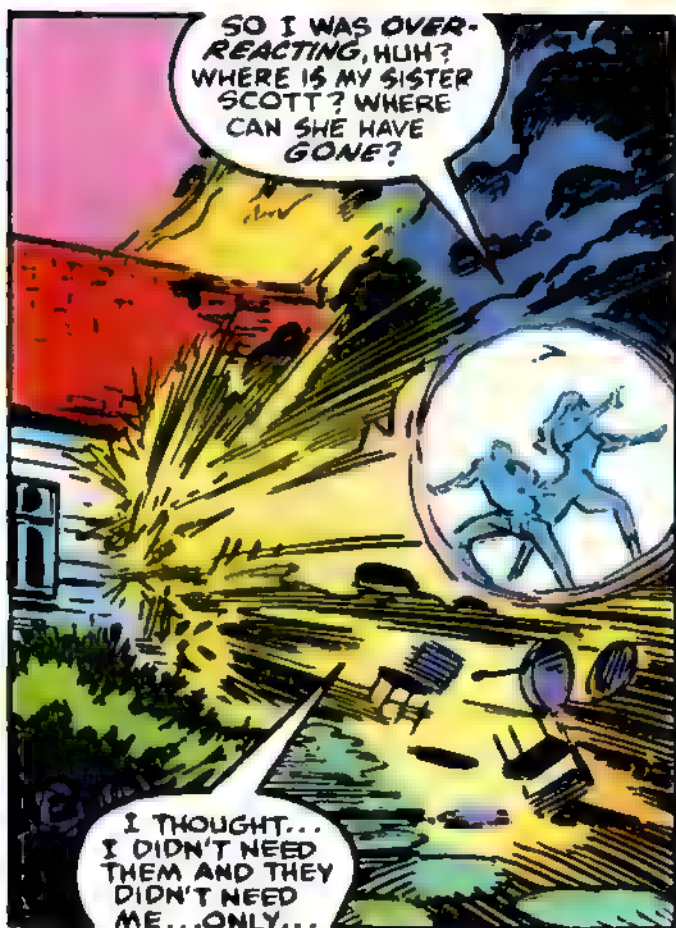
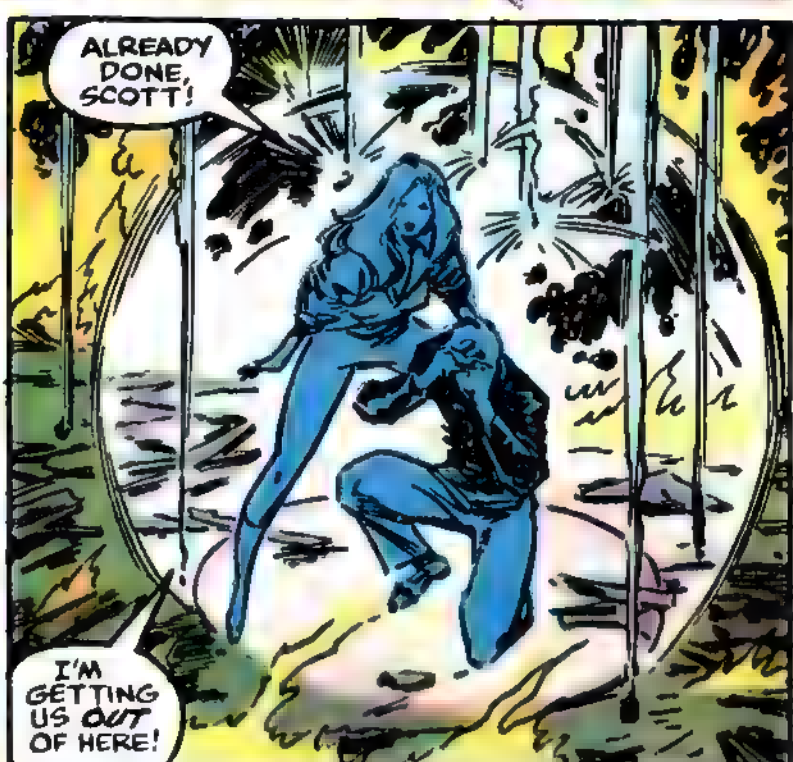
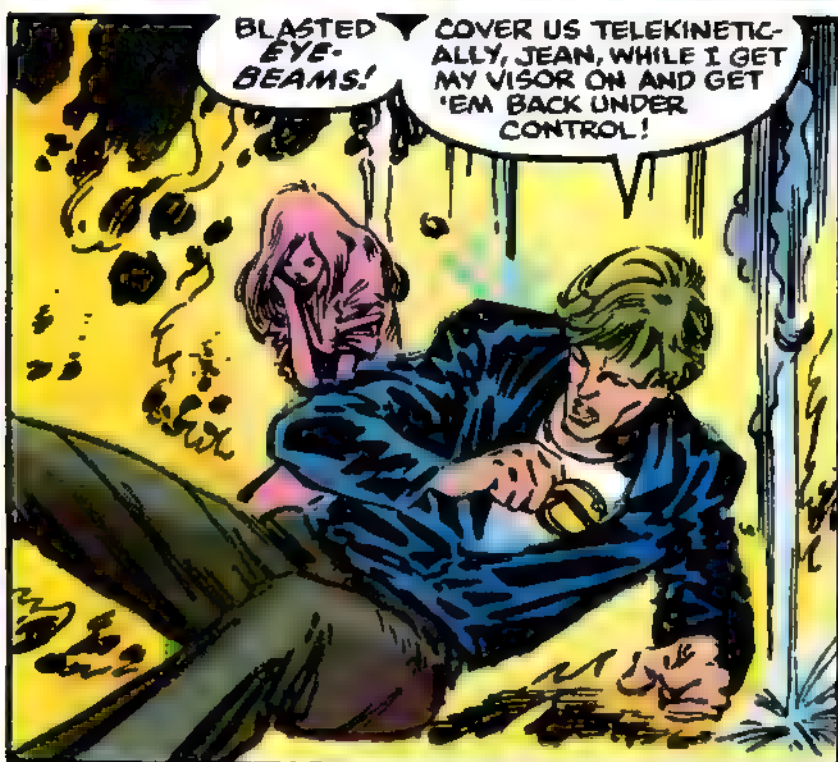
YOU GOT OUR
WARNING, MUTIE
LOVER! TOO BAD
YOU DIDN'T
LISTEN!

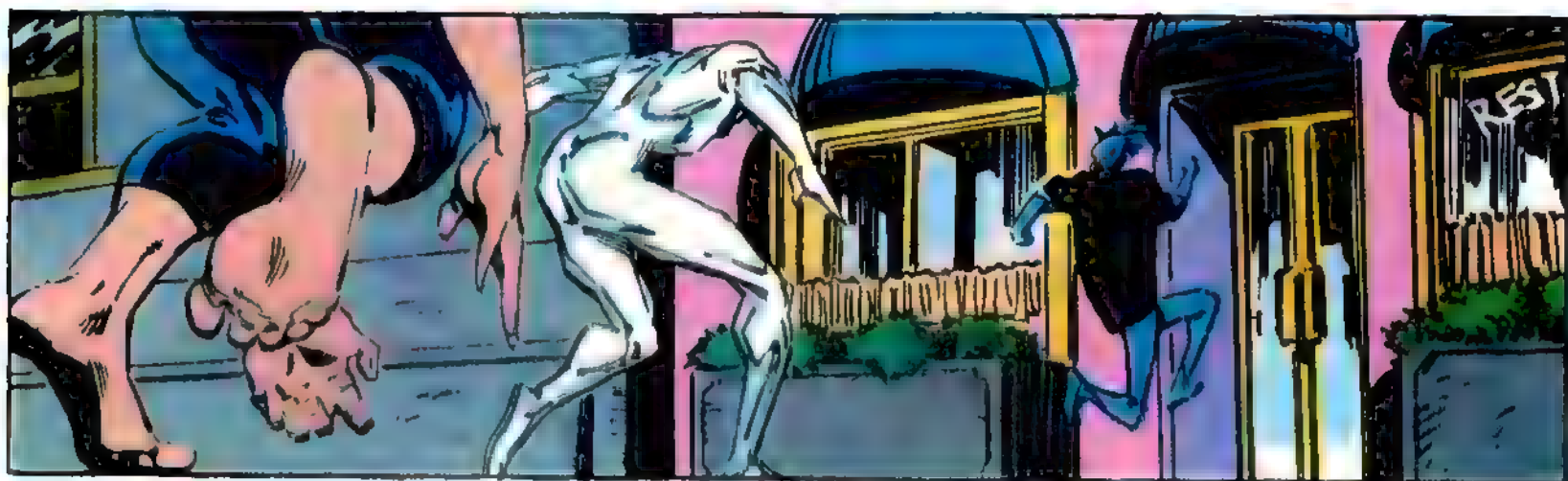
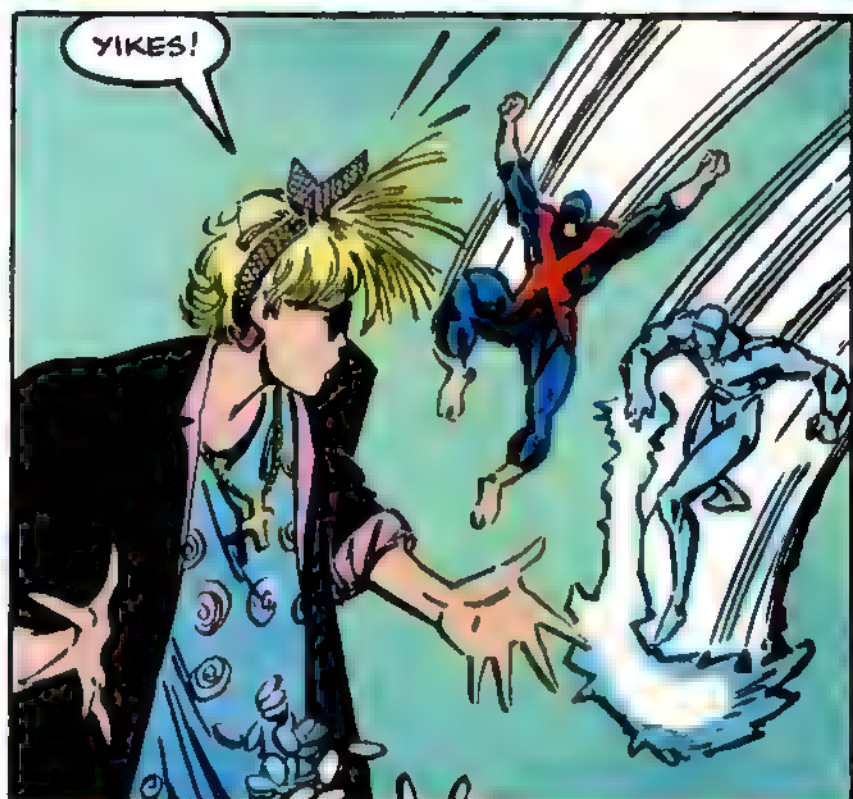
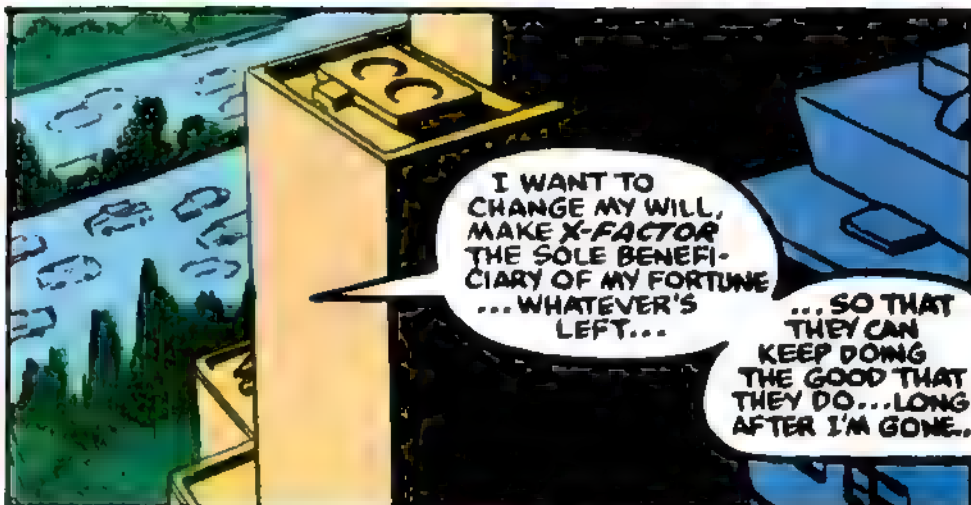
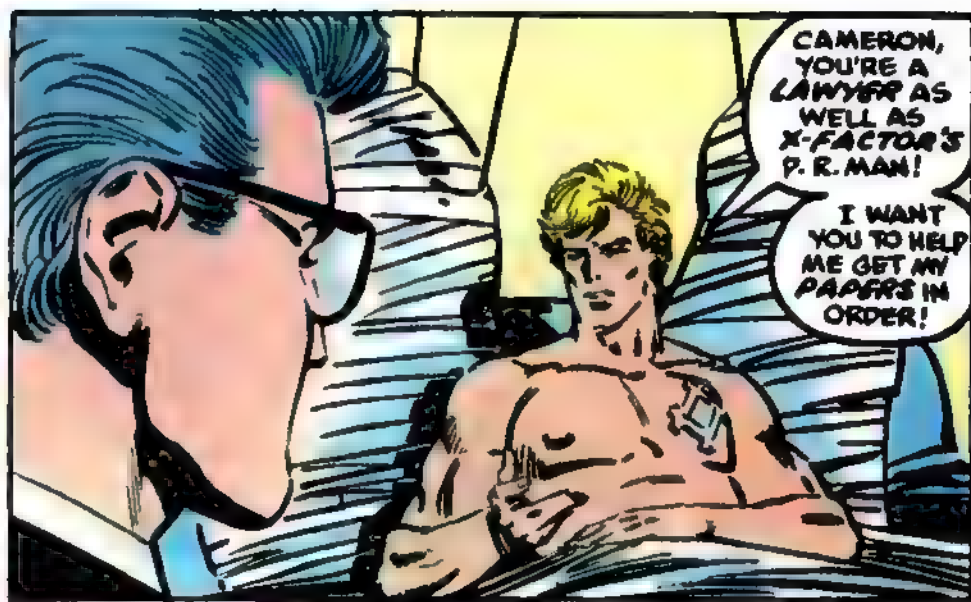
X-FACTOR
OUGHTA GO
AFTER YOUR KIND,
TOO, 'STEAD OF
LEAVING THIS DIRTY
WORK FOR US!

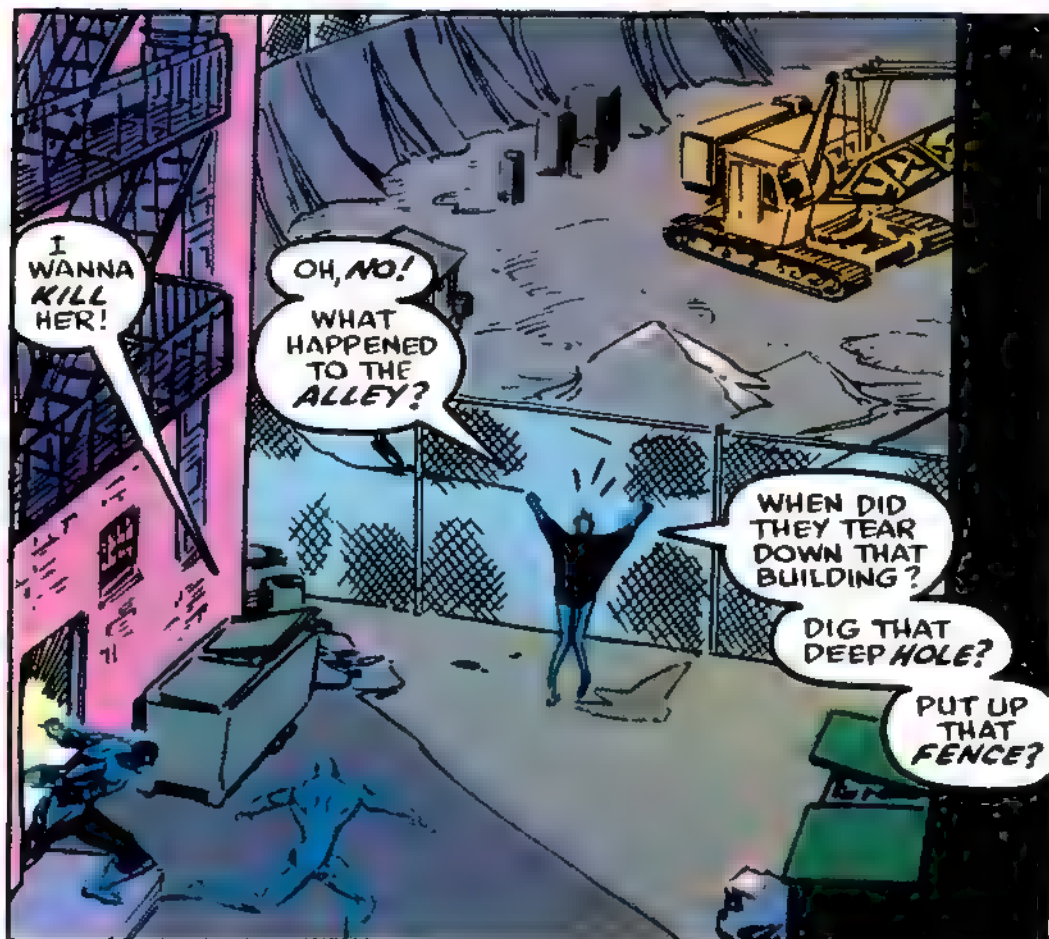
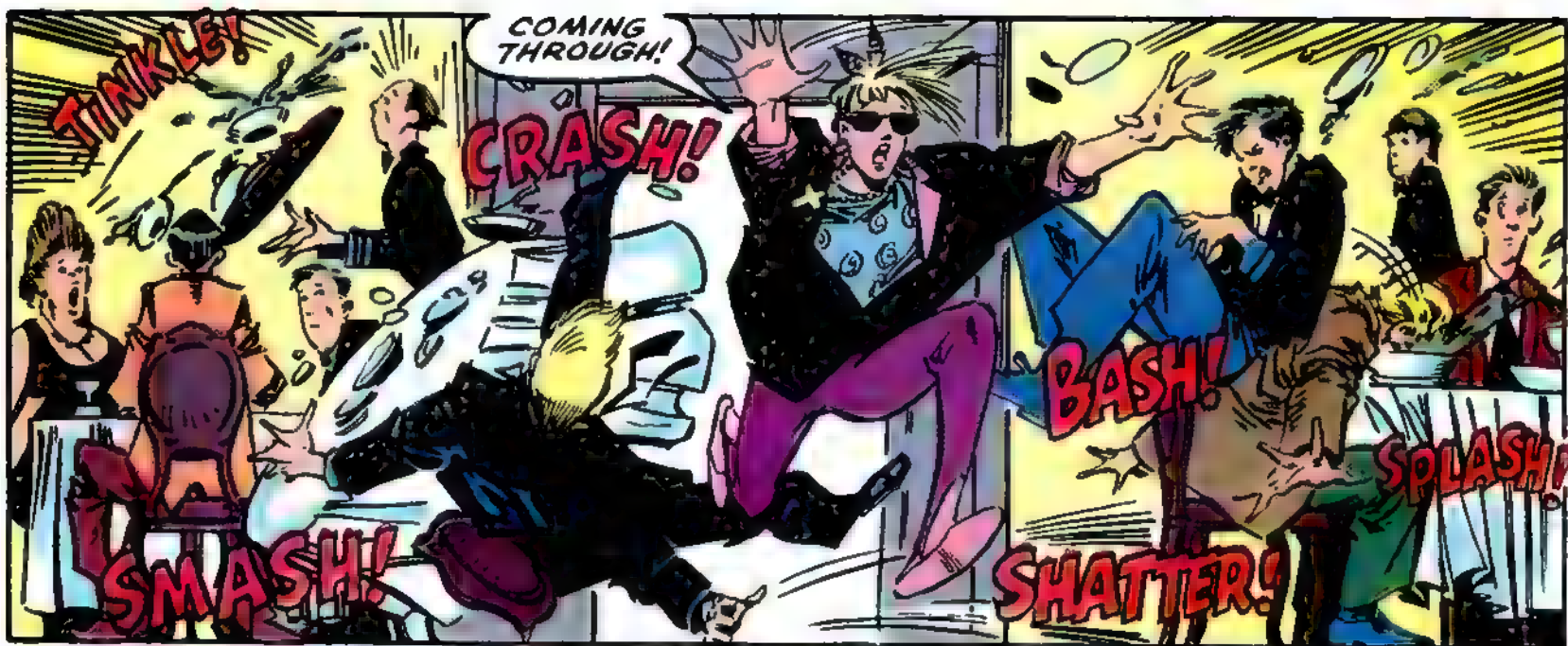


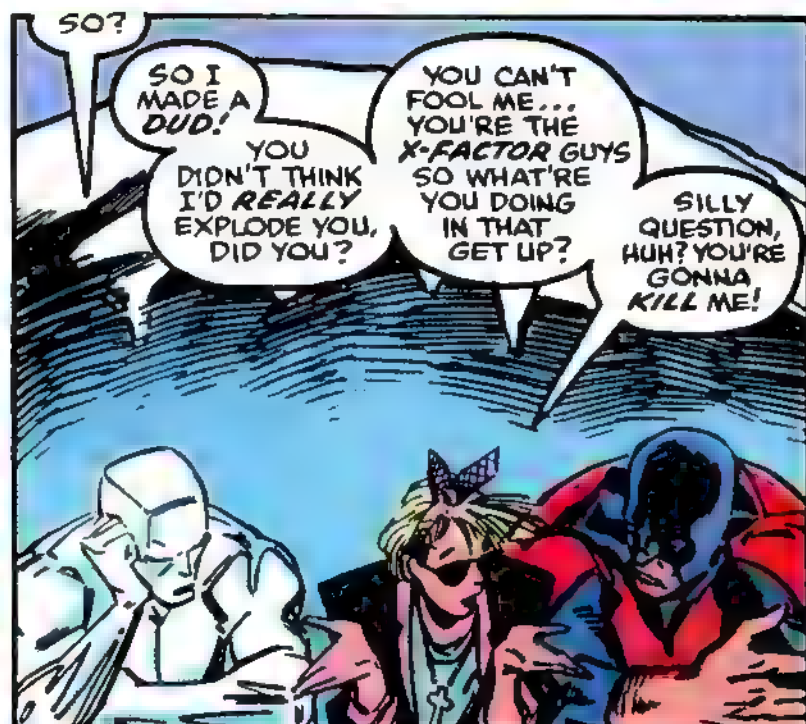
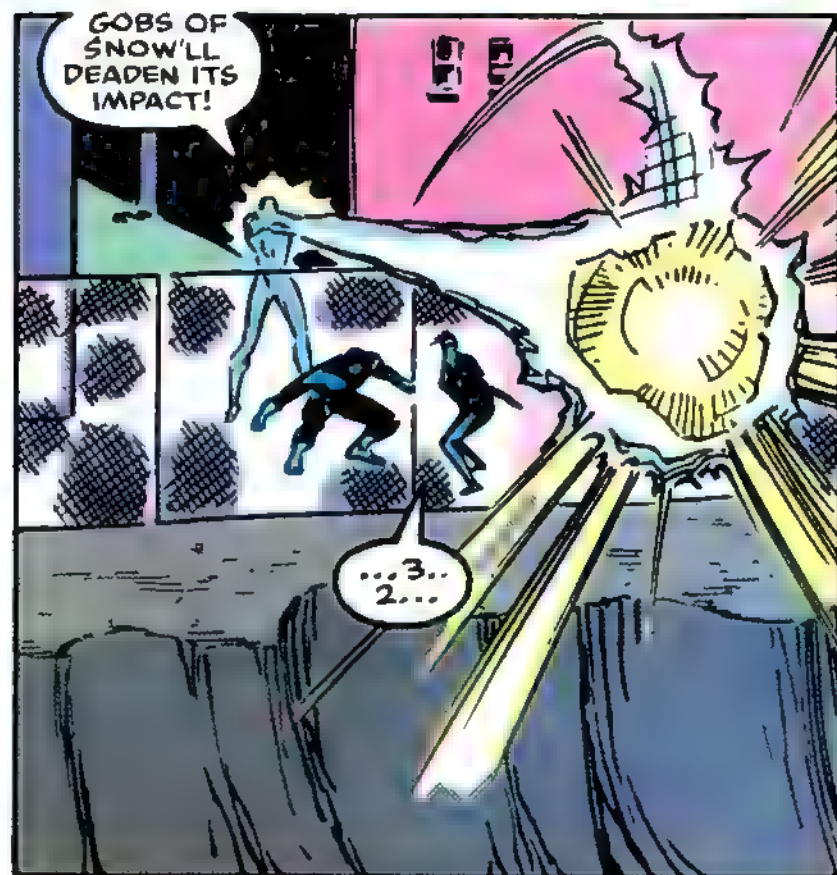
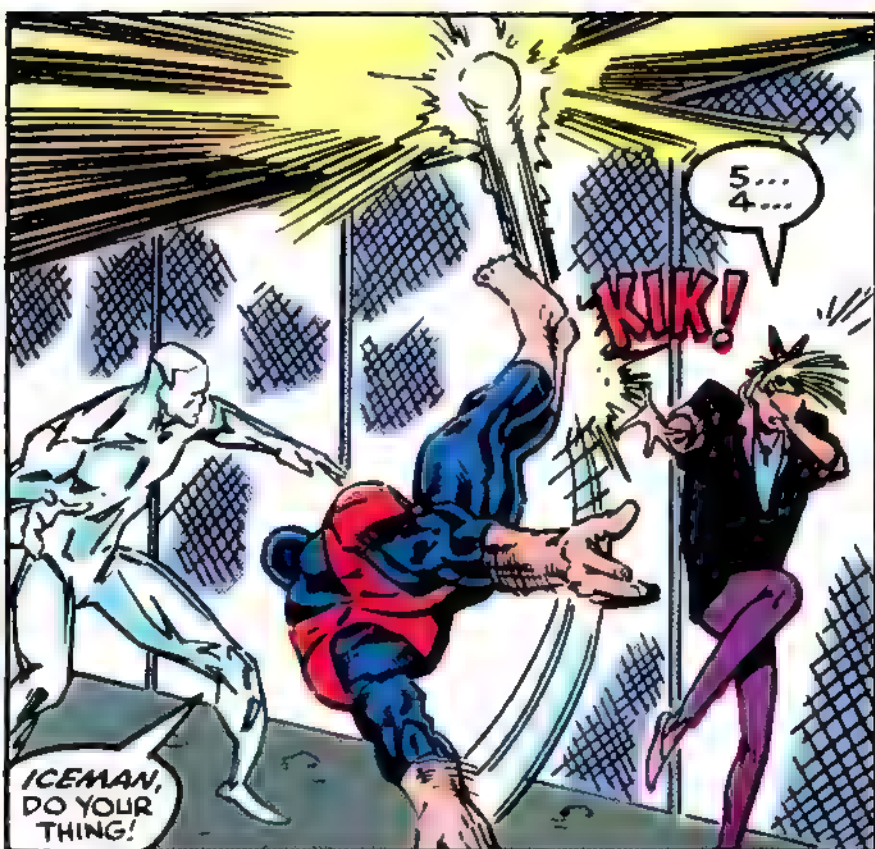
WARNING?
WHAT WARNING?
WHAT'RE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?

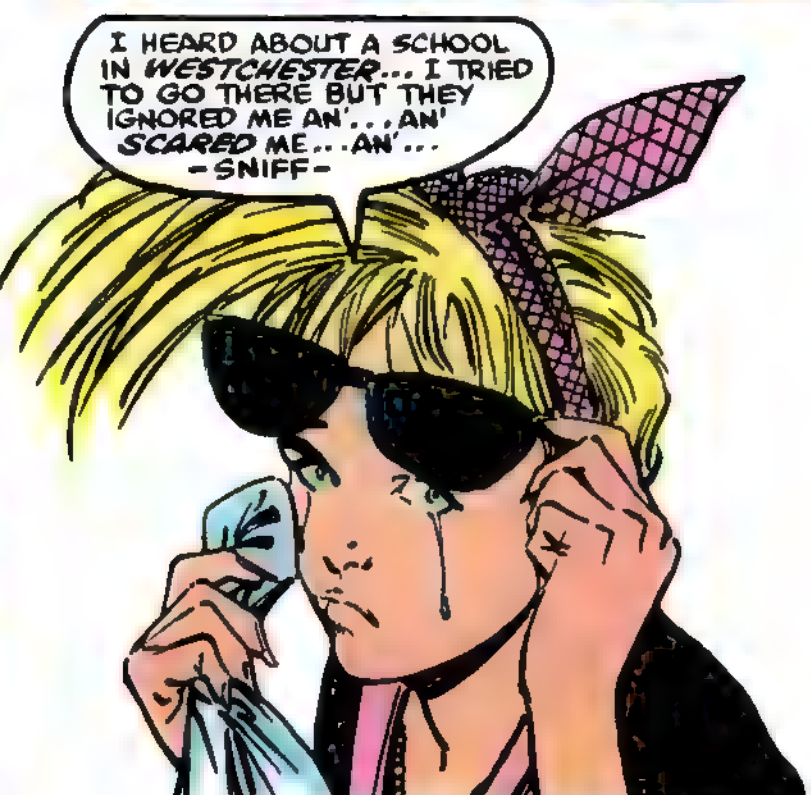
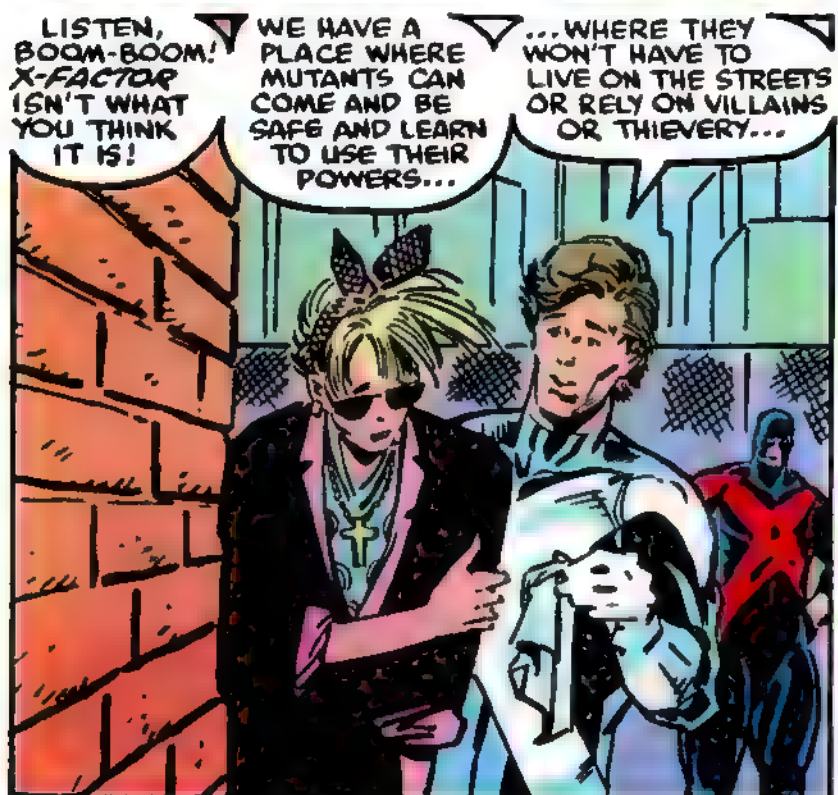
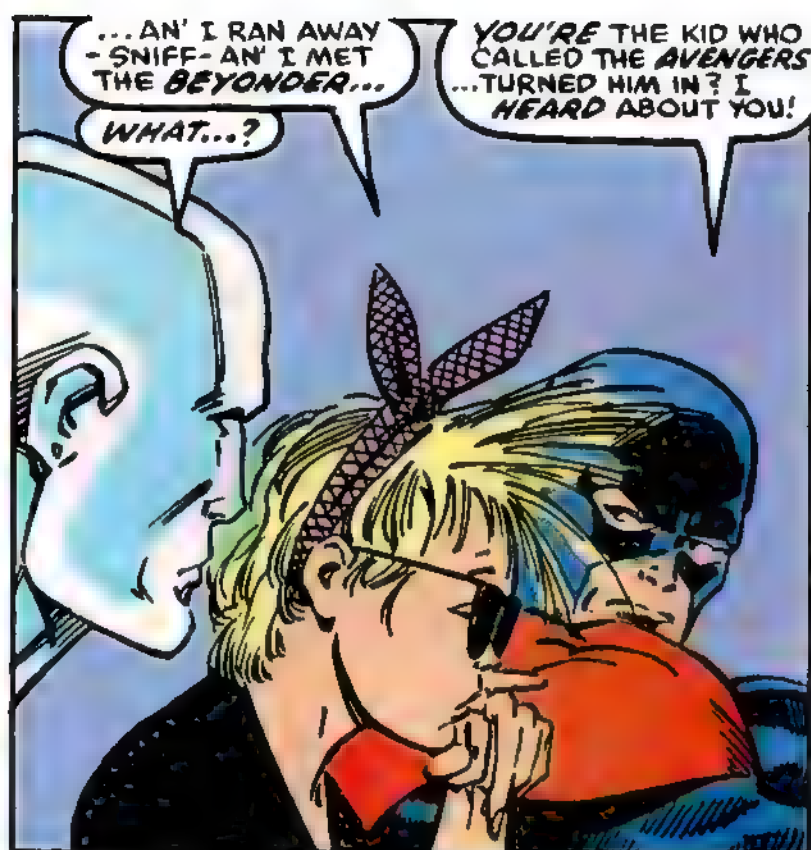
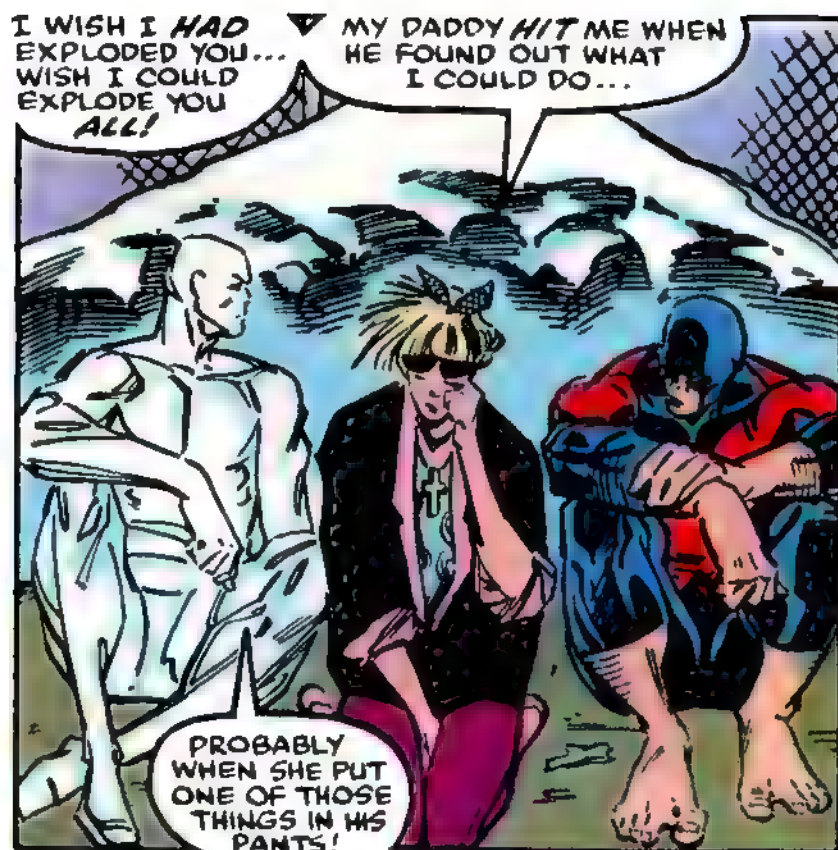
BYE BYE,
MUTIE
LOVER!











BULLPEN BULLETINS

Look Ma, National TV!

Stan Lee and I appeared on ABC's 20/20 a few weeks ago, talking about Marvel's twenty-fifth anniversary. Thanks to producer Joe Pfefferling, interviewer Bob Brown, and the whole 20/20 team, the segment was a magnificent tribute to Marvel. However...

While we were very pleased with everything that was broadcast, we were very disappointed about what was left out—specifically **every single mention** we made of Jack Kirby, Steve Ditko and the other great artists who co-created with Stan many of Marvel's greatest characters. We believe in giving credit where credit is due—and we **did**—but to no avail.

You don't have much control in interview situations like that. First of all, you discuss primarily what the interviewer wants, and second, they typically film sev-

eral hours of conversation which they edit down into a few minutes. You have no say over what makes it onto the air and what doesn't.

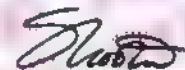
So, anyway, though we were basically delighted to see Marvel's twenty-fifth getting such great major media coverage, we wish it had come out a **little** differently.

We wanted you to know.

Next Month...

Some further thoughts on the media, responsibility, morality, and the kinds of things you can learn from reading comics.

Strive on,



Jim Shooter
Editor in Chief

CHECKLIST

- ☐ **CLOAK AND DAGGER #10**—Beware Doctor Doom!
- ☐ **DAREDEVIL #238**—It's a Mutant Massacre tale!
- ☐ **NEW MUTANTS #47**
- ☐ **STRIKEFORCE: MORITURI #2**—Visit "the Garden," where your powers will save you or kill you!
- ☐ **TRANSFORMERS: THE MOVIE (Limited Series) #2**
- ☐ **WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #22**
- ☐ **WEST COAST AVENGERS #18**—The return of Hellcat and Son of Satan!
- ☐ **CONAN THE KING #38**
- ☐ **X-MEN ANNUAL #10**—The X-Men are getting younger! CHRIS CLAREMONT wrote it! ART ADAMS drew it!
- ☐ **ALPHA FLIGHT #42**
- ☐ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #284**—Gang War!
- ☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA #325**
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NEW UNIVERSE

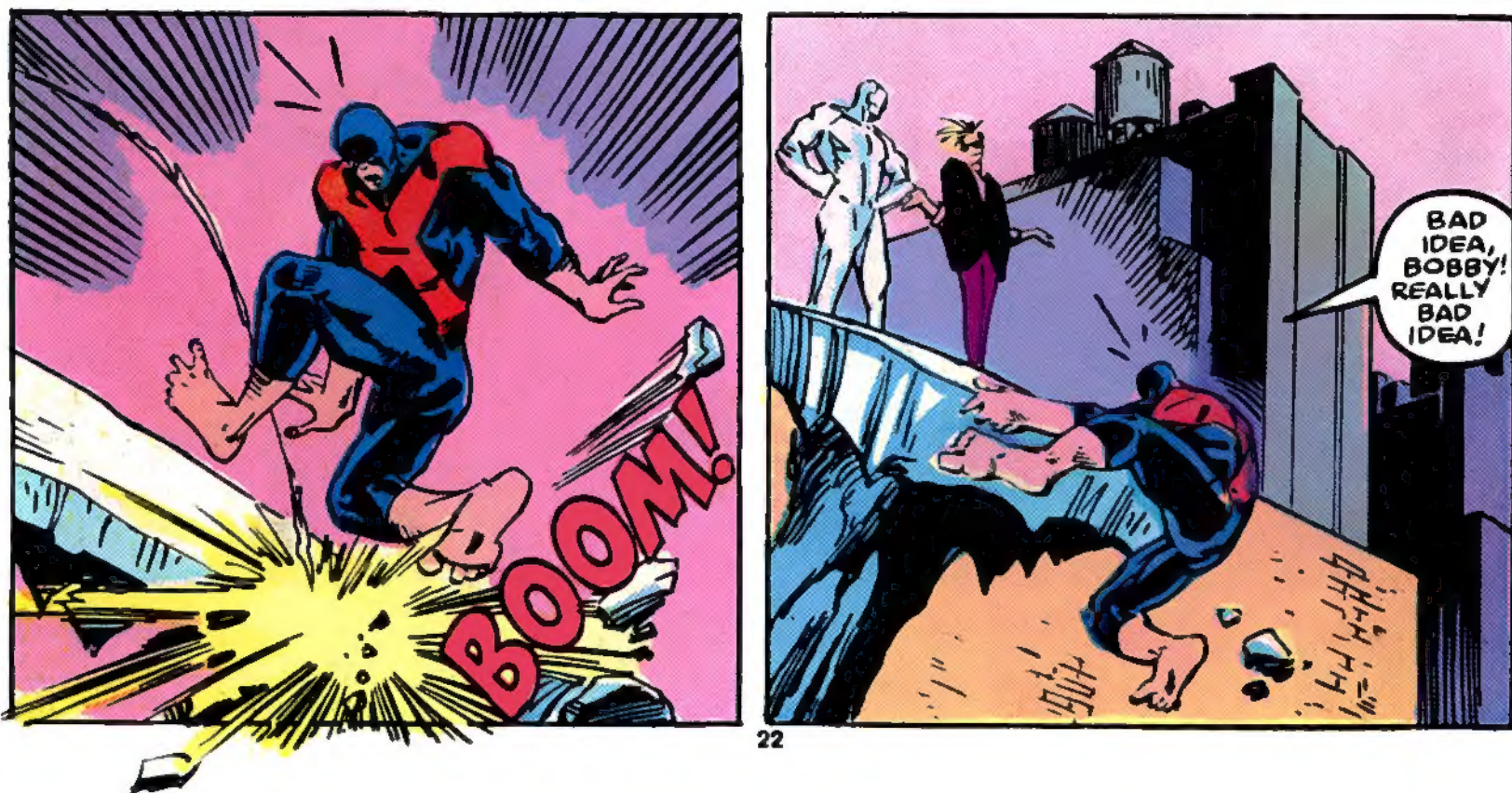
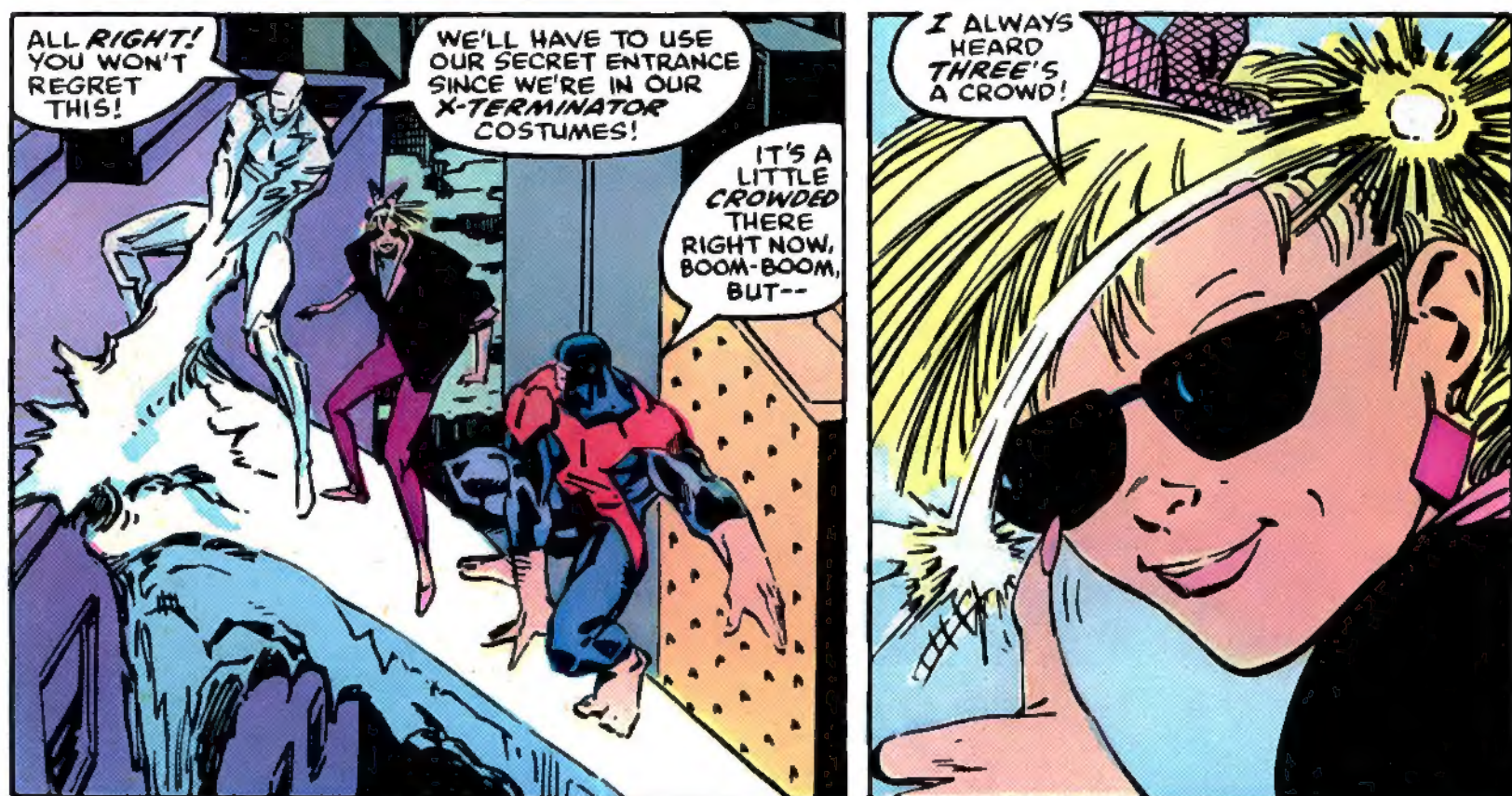
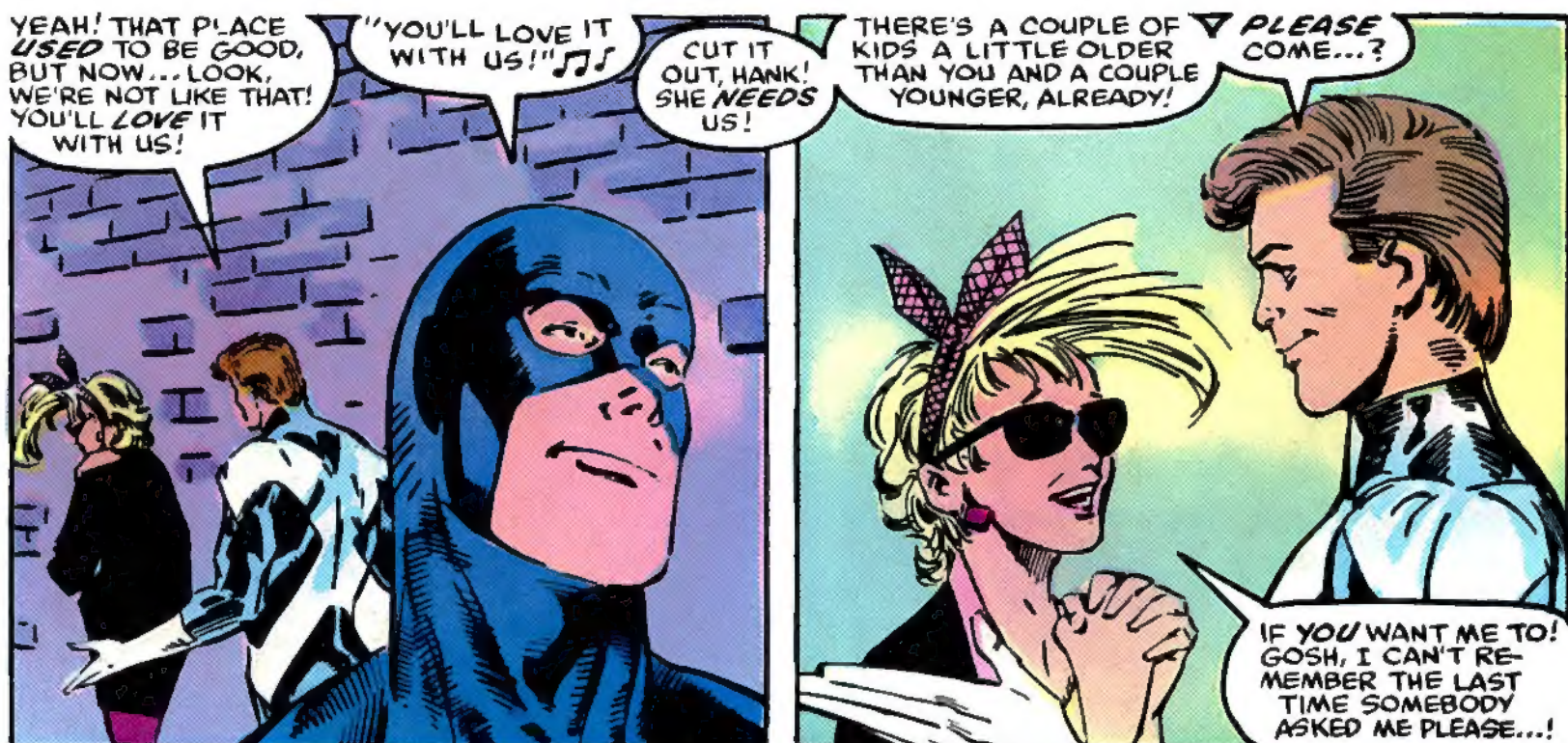
- ☐ **NIGHT MASK #3**—Teddy stands alone against the Gnome, while Night Mask attempts to resist the allure of Mistress Twilight!
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EXTRA!

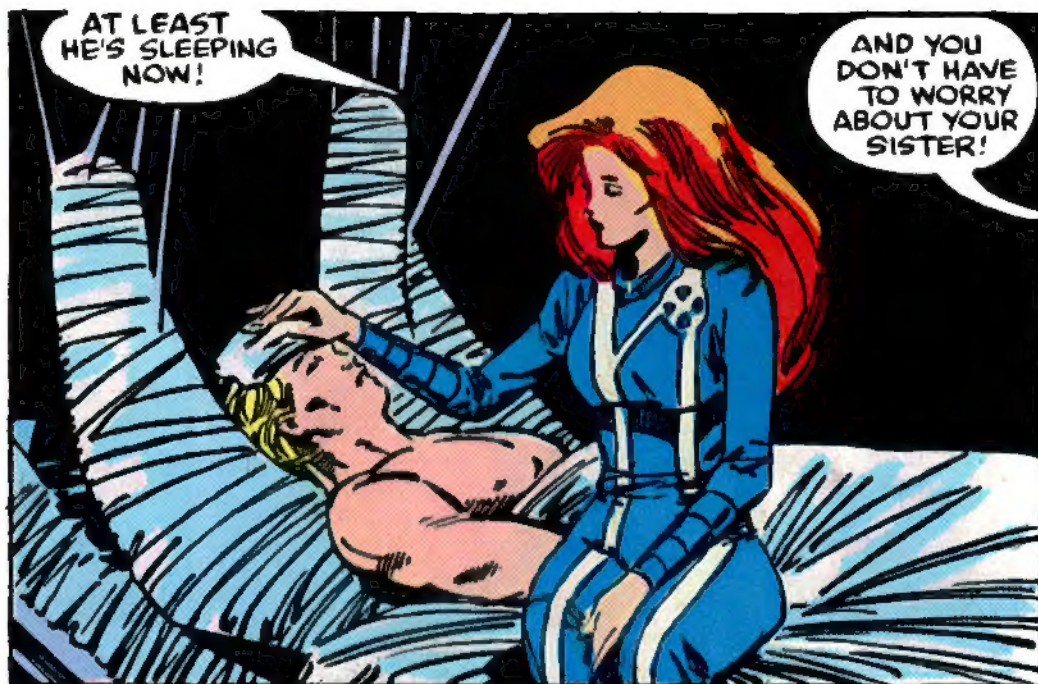
- ☐ **MARVEL UNIVERSE TRADE PAPERBACK #1**—That's right, the Deluxe Edition of the *Official Handbook of the Marvel Universe* is being collected into a classy series for your library! Each volume features 128 pages of info and pics of your favorite Marvel characters! It's great!





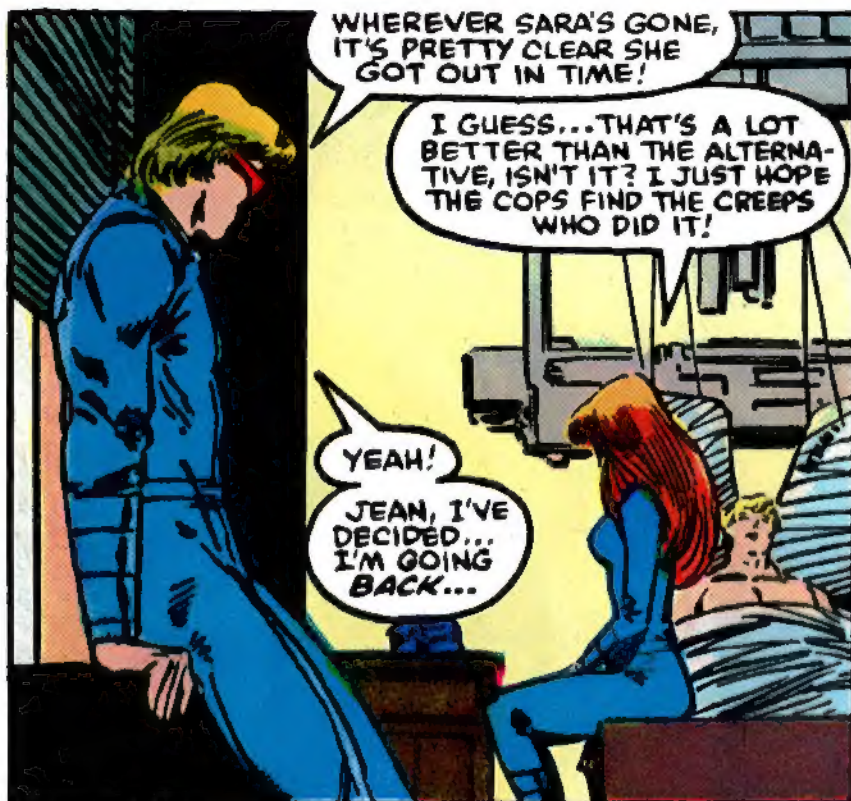
SAINT VINCENT'S HOSPITAL...

I'M WORRIED ABOUT ANGEL, SCOTT! HE'S IN SO MUCH PAIN! AND SO DEPRESSED! THIS INVESTIGATION...



AT LEAST HE'S SLEEPING NOW!

AND YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT YOUR SISTER!

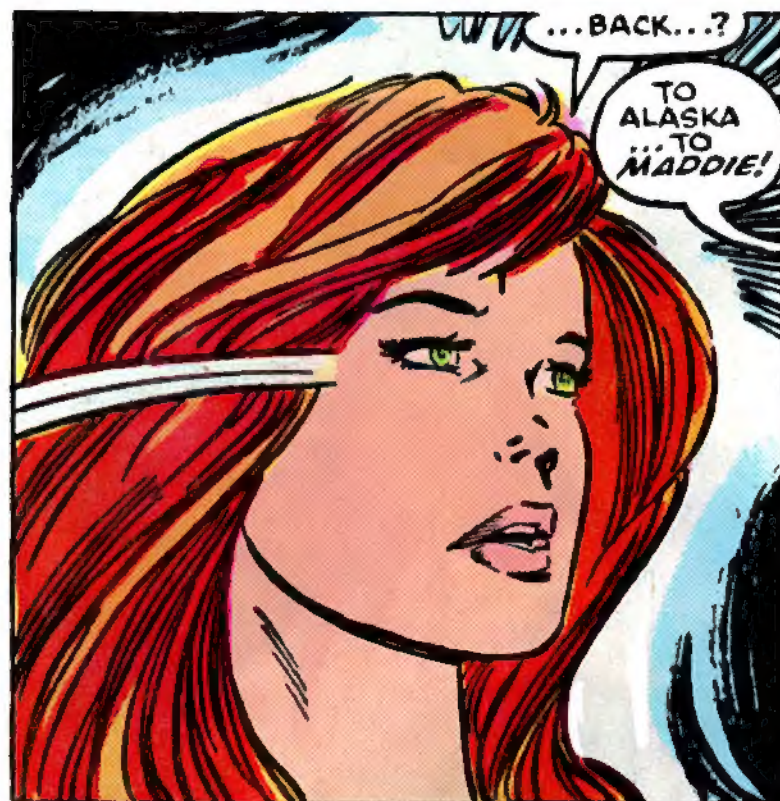


WHEREVER SARA'S GONE, IT'S PRETTY CLEAR SHE GOT OUT IN TIME!

I GUESS...THAT'S A LOT BETTER THAN THE ALTERNATIVE, ISN'T IT? I JUST HOPE THE COPS FIND THE CREEPS WHO DID IT!

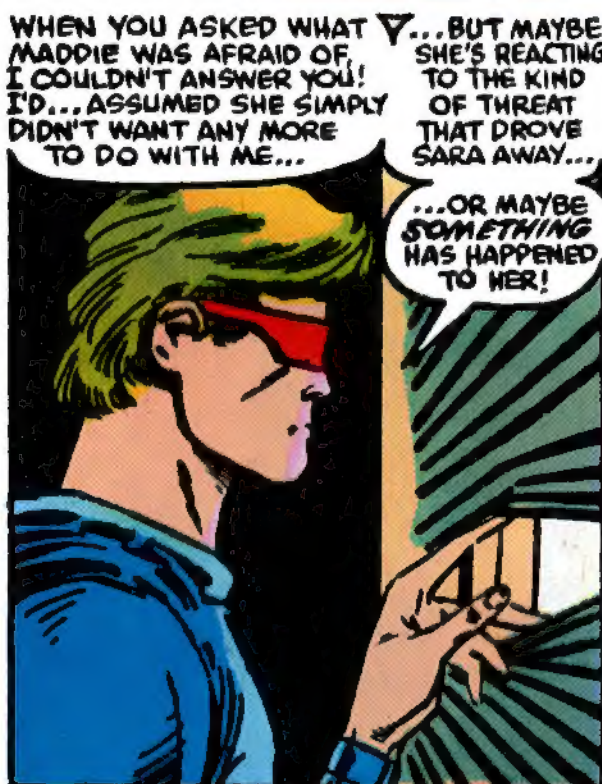
YEAH!

JEAN, I'VE DECIDED... I'M GOING BACK...



...BACK...?

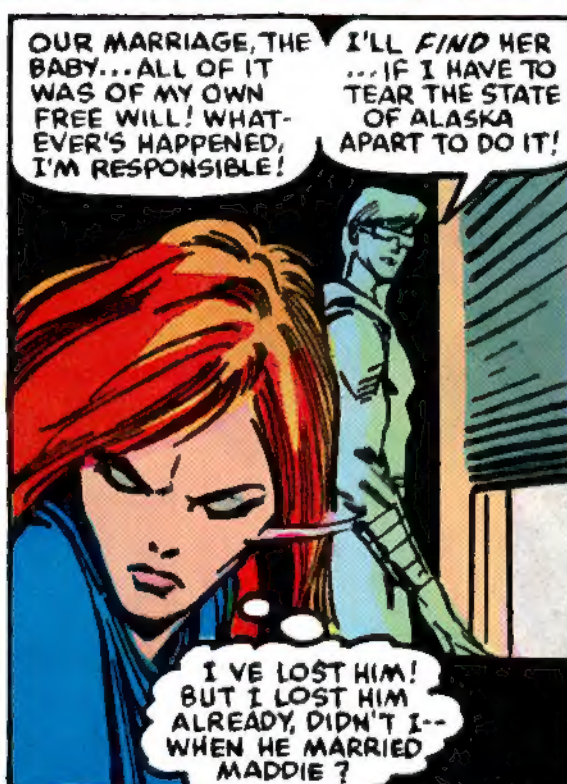
TO ALASKA... TO MADDIE!



WHEN YOU ASKED WHAT MADDIE WAS AFRAID OF, I COULDN'T ANSWER YOU! I'D... ASSUMED SHE SIMPLY DIDN'T WANT ANY MORE TO DO WITH ME...

...BUT MAYBE SHE'S REACTING TO THE KIND OF THREAT THAT DROVE SARA AWAY...

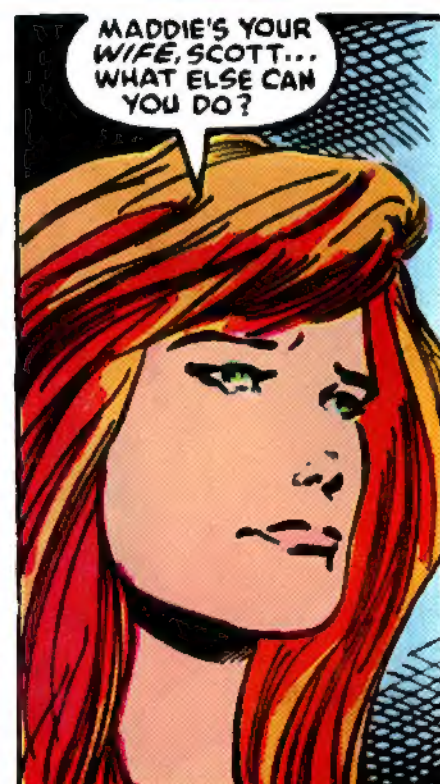
...OR MAYBE SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED TO HER!



OUR MARRIAGE, THE BABY... ALL OF IT WAS OF MY OWN FREE WILL! WHATEVER'S HAPPENED, I'M RESPONSIBLE!

I'LL FIND HER... IF I HAVE TO TEAR THE STATE OF ALASKA APART TO DO IT!

I'VE LOST HIM! BUT I LOST HIM ALREADY, DIDN'T I-- WHEN HE MARRIED MADDIE?



MADDIE'S YOUR WIFE, SCOTT... WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO?

NEXT ISSUE: **GHOSTS!**

SCOTT RUSHES TO ALASKA AND FINDS BOTH MORE AND LESS THAN HE BARGAINED FOR!

DON'T MISS -- THE RETURN OF THE MASTER MOLD!

X-CHANGES

BOB HARRAS: editor - BOBBIE CHASE: assistant editor

© MARVEL COMICS GROUP - 507 Park Avenue South - New York, New York - 10018
Attention: correspondents. If you don't want your full address printed, please be sure to tell us so!

Dear Louise,

First off, let me say that I only started buying X-FACTOR when you started writing it. I don't think much of the concept, but I have a lot of faith in you. And #7 was the first decent issue of this comic—some good development of Scott and Jean and a memorable pair of "real, radioactive mutants!" However, it's not the good parts of issue #7 that inspired me to write this . . .

At the end of his letter, David Wright asserts that a) he has no trouble believing in anti-mutant fervor given the current mood in this country, and b) X-Factor is a logical, sensible way to deal with such problems. I don't buy it on either count.

Starting with "a"—I'm hardly so naive as to suggest it couldn't happen here again, but Marvel carries it too far. Any time a telepath tunes into the thoughts of normal humans, 90% of their thoughts seem to be about mutants and the Menace—surely, even under McCarthy's influence people weren't that obsessive. More aggravatingly, while there are plenty of oppressive forces in society, there are plenty of positive ones—people trying to fight unjust laws and lawsuits, donating legal aid, protesting in Washington. In Marvel, the assumption is that nobody's standing up. One of the things that I liked about #7 was that we had pro-mutant protesters outside X-Factor Headquarters—I just hope we see more of this. And I mean having groups of supporters, not just rare enlightened individuals. In AVENGERS, the Veterans Of Foreign Wars were shown supporting Namor as a member—how about having the American Civil Liberties Union or Common Cause go to bat against anti-mutant laws, let alone X-Factor? (It seems to me that their methods massively violate laws and civil rights.) What if a politician tried "courting" the mutant vote? (Heaven knows, there are enough mutants turning up.) Think on it, huh?

For my second point . . . as a solution, X-Factor stinks. It's a cop-out. Professor Xavier's dream was to unite humanity's two branches—X-Factor is saying it can't be done, let's hide our heads in the sand and hope it goes away. You want real world? When in the history of the world has that attitude accomplished anything?

As I said, one good issue, Louise—but this mag has a long way to go.

Fraser Sherman
305 Lewis St. #3
Ft. Walton Beach, FL 32548

Nobody is hiding his head in the sand, Fraser! X-Factor is merely taking a different approach to a very serious problem. Their ultimate dream is still the unification of mutants and humans, but they realize that this is a bad time for their people.

They are also aware that the X-Factor concept may have made the situation worse in the short term and they are

aware that they are hated and feared by the very people they are striving to help.

The resolution to this desperate situation should prove very interesting. Keep watching!

Bob.

X-FACTOR #7 really was depressing.

It's not bad enough that Bulk and Glowworm are feared and hated by the human populace at large, but they're also dying of radiation exposure, right? Then you add to this the fact that even the infamous Morlocks won't have anything to do with 'em and you really get depressed.

Was this intentional?

Elvis Orten
Route #4 Box 120
Dawson Springs, KY 42408

The life of a mutant—especially those obviously mutated like Bulk and Glowworm—can be extremely depressing. Elvis. That's why Cyclops, Angel, Iceman, Marvel Girl and the Beast reunited . . . to help alleviate the pain.

However, in life, there are those who cannot be helped. There are those who are too far gone and Bulk and Glowworm, with their radioactive emissions, were unfortunate examples of this tragic reality.

Dear X-FACTOR,

There is a time that comes in everyone's life when they must eat their words, and I think that my time has come.

A few weeks ago after reading X-FACTOR #7, I sent you a rather scathing and sarcastic letter pointing out all the things that I thought were wrong with your new title. I really hated it. But after reading X-FACTOR #8, I must say you changed my mind.

The whole tone of the magazine seemed to change, due, in a large part, I believe, to your change in writers. The characters took on the more realistic feel that I had become used to in THE X-MEN and NEWMUTANTS. These weren't cardboard characters anymore. Jean's hurt and anger at Scott were real, as was Warren's confusion about his feelings toward Jean. You've brought these people back into the real world. I think that #8 has been the best issue, by far. I hope that they will only get better. Whereas before, Rusty and Skids seemed like only cartoon characters, they now seem real to me.

The artwork, too, has gotten better. Jean and Scott look like Jean and Scott. The same goes for the rest of the team.

Thank you so much for making this the book I expected to read in the first place. (Even bringing Jean back doesn't seem so bad anymore.)

Mellanie Rittenour
230 Prairie Dr.
Akron, OH 44312

Dear X-FACTOR,

Issue #8 of X-FACTOR, "Lost and Found," was pretty good. A few questions, though—

1) What will happen to Skids? She seems to have a fair part in this comic.

2) Will Maddle ever show up? A surprise visit to talk with Scott, maybe?

3) Freedom Force's Avalanche seemed concerned about hunting down Rusty on page 8. Do I sense a change of heart?

About the characters—

Scott is A-OK except for his ever-changing attitude about things.

Jean—Ahhh . . . here we have a lady who was thought dead, left broken-hearted after she found out about Scott's marriage, and lost her telekinetic powers. I personally think she handled all of it very well.

Hank . . . Beast . . . whichever you prefer—I love 'im. A highly intelligent mutant is a great ideal. No faults whatsoever.

Bobby seems to just hang out with X-Factor. He's one of my favorite Marvel heroes, but most of the time he gets a "zero" for helping out. For example, he doesn't do anything in this issue.

Warren's OK, I guess, but I have a question. How does he hide his wings in his X-Factor suit (not to be confused with his Angel uniform)?

Overall, this wonderful comic deserves four stars! Thank you.

Jenny Ottes
(Address Withheld by Request)

Four stars! Whoa, thanks, Jenny! And just for being so nice, we'll try and answer your questions:

1) Skids will definitely be around for awhile. Now that her people, the Morlocks, have been tragically wiped out, she really has no other place to go. As a matter of fact, if you're a Skids fan (and let's face it, who isn't?) you should be interested in an upcoming issue which spotlights our slippery blonde Morlock (not to mention Artie and Rusty!).

2) We'll be dealing with the elusive Mrs. Summers in our very next issue.

3) Avalanche's interest was just the natural concern of one mutant for another in these increasingly difficult times for homo superior. He was merely questioning the wisdom of hunting down their own kind at the bidding of humans.

Bobby has hardly been sitting on the sidelines . . . he was as involved as any other member of X-Factor in trying to save the Morlocks. He's fairly active this very issue and we have the feeling that Boom Boom is going to keep him very busy in the future!

As for Warren's wings . . . well, that's a moot point, but before the massacre, he hid them in his over-sized back pack while in his mutant hunter guise.

NEXT ISSUE: Scott journeys to Alaska to find Maddle and his son . . . but what he discovers there may change his life forever! And a menace from the past lies in wait. Join us in a descent into despair in a tale cryptically entitled "Three Into One Won't Go," by Louise Simonson, Walt Simonson and guest inker Dan Green.

MINUTEMEN



STREET BOY